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The most beautiful production on tour.
Playing to very fine business everywhere.
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THE RED COAT.
Will Managers please send vacant dates?
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West-End Cast, headed by Miss Mabel Mannering.
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The new and great London success.
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From the Prince of Wales Theatre.
Summer vacancies.
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Required, all concerned to write in, quoting experience and lowest terms. Chorus need not have Répertoire for examination, but must be young. Extra salaries are paid for Small Parts, which are all played exclusively by the Chorus.
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The above organisation have for the past several years toured throughout Great Britain the largest Grand Opera Companies that have ever visited the Provinces, and will endeavour to continue to do so until a really practical and definite scheme has been founded for United Empire Grand Opera.
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Also the following Operas:—
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Wire or write Joseph Millane.

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MISS JENNIE ARMSTRONG.
Madam Blum, "Quaker Girl" Co. (North).
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MISS BARBARA BABINGTON.
The Prince, "Cinderella."
Gaiety Theatre, Dublin.

MISS ADA BAND.
Petite Juvenile, Comedy, Boys.
23, Meech-street, Openshaw, Manchester.

MISS ANNIE BARCLAY.
Jan. 13, The Empire, Edinburgh.

MISS DOROTHY BAYLDON. Twenty weeks, "Gay Lord Quex." Dis. Juv. Light Comedy, Boys. 53, Breakspears-rd., Brockley, S.E.

MISS ANNE BEAUFORT.
Hotel Westminster,
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MISS MARIE BECKENHAM.
Manager, "The Chocolate Soldier" Co.
Jan. 13, Stafford (3); Wrexham (3).

MISS BESSIE BEDFORD.
Mrs. Jeffcote, "Hindle Wakes."
Lyceum Theatre, Sheffield.

MRS. BENNETT.
"A Queen for a Wife" Co. Theatre, Worthing, till Jan. 15, then Theatre, Ramsgate.

MADAME ISABEL BERESFORD.
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MISS MILDRED BLANCHARD.
Address,
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MISS EDITH BLANDE
(Mrs. Austin Brereton).
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N.W.

MISS MAUDE BRACEWELL.
Mrs. Whyte-Fraser in "Diana of Dobson's."
Vacation. P.A., 20, Heaton-grove, Bradford.

MISS JESSIE BURGWITZ.
Marie Tempest and Comedy Parts.
Dis. 31, Queen Anne's-grove, Bedford Park, W.

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Susie Simpson, Mr. Cyril Maude's "Bunty Pulls the Strings" Co. (N.). Jan. 13, O.H., Perth.

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At liberty for Lead. Home or Abroad.
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Disengaged. Star, Heavies, and Intense Emotional Parts. 61, Crescent-rd., Ramsgate.

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Elise in "The Other Lady."
Jan. 13, West Pier, Brighton.

MISS LENA DELPHINE. Engaged by Messrs. Bode and Compton for Spring Tour of "Everywoman." 53, St. Maur-rd., Fulham.

MISS GRACE DENBEIGH-RUSSELL
Lady Fenella Mull in "Jelf's."
Jan. 13, Opera House, Cheltenham.

MISS DOROTHY DEWHURST.
Jan. 13,
Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

MISS DORIS DIGBY. In "Trafalgar," with Mr. Herbert Sleath. Jan. 13, Pavilion T., Glasgow. Dis., Jan. 20.

MISS ENA DOUGLAS.
Disengaged shortly, Heavy Lead, Char., Comedy, Jan. 13, G.P.O., Dumfries, Scotland; Jan. 16, G.P.O., Hawick, Scotland.

MISS MARY DOUGLAS.
Disengaged shortly, Juvenile Lead. Jan. 13, G.P.O., Dumfries, Scotland; Jan. 16, G.P.O., Hawick, Scotland.

MISS MAUDE STEWART DREWRY.
Disengaged. Leads.
Prince of Wales Theatre, Birmingham.

MISS AMY LLOYD EARLE.
Dis. Char. Comedy or Aristocratic or Com. Old Women. 80, Gloucester-rd., S. Tottenham, N.

MISS HELEN GRAHAM EDWINS.
Heavy, Char., and Comedy, in "Mother."
Jan. 13, Queen's Theatre, Poplar.

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Reopen Feb. 3, Coronet T., W.

MISS LALLIE FORSYTH. "The Lodgers" Co. This, Empire, Newcastle. Next, Empire, Edinburgh. 3, Long-acre, London, W.C.

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Pantomime, Savoy Theatre, Glasgow.
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MISS NELLIE GARSIDE.
The Hut, Seamer-road, Scarborough.

MISS DORIS GILHAM.
The Queen, in "The Apple of Eden."
Jan. 13, Peterborough (3); Grantham (3).

MISS BEATRICE GROSVENOR.
Sulphuretta, John Tiller's "Cinderella" Co.,
Jan. 13, Empire, Sunderland. Dis., March 3.

MISS MILLICENT HALLATT.
Juv. Lead, Ingénues. Disengaged.
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MISS LILIAN HALLOWS. Jan 13,
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MISS JOAN HARCOURT.
Mr. Frank Fenton's Co.
Jan. 13, Ramsgate (3); Canterbury (3).

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Mrs. Hawthorn, "Hindle Wakes."
Jan. 13, Lyceum, Sheffield.

MISS GRACE HARLINGTON.
Address,
42, Byron-road, Morecambe. 'Phone 24.

MISS ETHEL HARPER.
Concluded S.A. engagement, Messrs. Lang and Holloway. Disengaged for few weeks. The Limes, Stowmarket, Suffolk.

MISS GERTRUDE HARRISON.
Disengaged. Leads, Heavies, Character.
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MISS ALICE M. HOWE.
Disengaged shortly. Juveniles, Characters.
Jan. 13, Dumfries.

MISS ALICE INMAN.
Disengaged.
21, Gladstone-street, Glossop, Derbyshire.

MISS CLARA JECKS.
Address,
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MISS ETHEL KAY.
Star Lead, "Two Little Vagabonds."
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MISS OCTAVIA KENMORE.
At liberty for Leading Parts.
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Disengaged. Character, Old Women.
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MISS GRACE LESTER.
Own Sketch. This week, Lyceum, Govan.
Jan. 13, Palace Music Hall, Glasgow.

MISS GLADYS LLOYD.
Beatrice, "Hindle Wakes."
Jan. 13, Lyceum, Sheffield.

MISS KITTY LOFTING.
At liberty.
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Principal Dancer, "Jack and Jill."
Theatre Royal, Plymouth, Xmas, 1912.

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MISS JOAN MARSHALL.
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Star Lead, "For Mother's Sake."
This and next, Theatre Royal, Belfast.

MISS VIOLETTE MAY
(Mrs. Henry Hallatt). Lottie, in
"A Lad's Love." E.T., Bishop Auckland.

MISS MARGARET MURCH.
Disengaged. Lead.
C/o A.A., 32, Regent-street, W.

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Star Lead with Mr. W. A. Brady.
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Disengaged.
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MISS DORRIS ROBERTS.
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Address, 66A, Silver-crescent, Gunnersbury, W.

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"Red Riding Hood," as Dandy Dick.
Tunbridge Wells.

MISS VITA SPENCER.
Lead, Comedy, Drama. Disengaged.
Address, Sapcote, Oppidans-road, N.W.

MISS ANNIE STALMAN
(Mrs. Drew Mackintosh). Dis. Feb. 3. Offers invited. Jan. 13, Empire Theatre, Bradford.

MISS LALLA STANHOPE. Disengaged, Jan. 13. Thanks Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds for comfortable tour. 17, River Avon-st., Liverpool.

MISS GERTRUDE STERROLL.
Disengaged.
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MISS WINNIE TEMPEST
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MISS AGNES VERITY.
Lead, "Find the Woman" Co.
Jan. 13, T.R., Norwich.

MISS HELENA WALBRAN.
As Fanny Hawthorn, "Hindle Wakes." Today, W.G., New Brighton. Next, T.R., Blackburn.

MISS LAURA WALKER.
Star Lead, "Queen of the Redskins" Co.
Jan. 13, H.M.T., Carlisle.

MISS FANNY WALLACE. Margarina, John Tiller's "Cinderella." Disengaged March 3. Jan. 13, Empire, Sunderland.

MISS WARD.
Esther, "The Slave Girl."
Coms., Theatre Royal, Crook.

MISS ETHEL WARD.
Title-rôle, "Aladdin."
Jan. 13, Hippodrome, Woolwich.

MISS MAY WARDEN.
Title-rôle, "The Colombo Girl" Co.
En route.

MISS IDA WARRINGTON.
"Hindle Wakes" Co.
Jan. 13, T.R., Leamington.

MISS JOAN WELLMAN.
Disengaged.
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MISS LOUIE WEST. Thisbe in "Cinderella," Messrs. Murray King and Chas. Clark's Co. Coronet Theatre, Notting Hill Gate.

MISS FRANCES WHITE.
Address,
32, Regent-street, W.

MISS FLORENCE WILLIAMS.
Sylvia, "The Lifeguardsman."
Jan. 13, Theatre Royal, Rotherham.

MISS DOROTHY WILMER.
This week, Lyceum Theatre, Edinburgh.
Per add., 43, West-End-lane, N.W.

MISS VASHTI WYNNE.
Disengaged. 99, Ridgmount-gardens, W.C.
Telephone, 4630 Gerrard.

MR. FRED ACTON. Character Comedian. Disengaged end of February. "Mother Goose" Co. Palace Theatre, Bath.

MR. RONALD ADAIR.
The Monk in "The Monk and the Woman."
Address, Pier Pavilion Theatre, Eastbourne.

MR. CHARLES ALDRED. Liberty Feb. 10 for Principal Part or Management.
Bus. Manager, "Aladdin." Marlborough T., Holloway.

MR. ALEC. ALVES.
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Palace Theatre, Glasgow.

MR. W. ANNESLEY and LELIA DRUMMOND (Mrs. W. A.). Dis. Leads, Light Com., Management. 4, Castle View, Caergwrle, near Wrexham.

MR. GEORGE ARTHUR.
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Sir Francis Levison, with Mr. Pitt-Hardacre.
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Author-Producer and General-Manager.
Little's Productions, Ltd., "Aladdin."

MR. FRANK AYRTON.
Principal Comedy, Stage and General-Management. Offers invited for Feb. 10. T.R., Huddersfield.

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"Get-Rich-Quick Wallingford."
Queen's Theatre, W.

MR. ORLANDO BARNETT.
Address,
Actors' Association.

MR. J. J. BARTLETT.
Disengaged.
Address, 12, Angel-road, Hammersmith.

MR. JOHN HASTINGS BATSON.
Address,
C/o "The Era"; or the A.A.

MR. HENRY BEDFORD.
"The Bottom Dog."
Jan. 13, Collins's Music Hall.

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Scotch Comedy, Low Comedy, Character, or Old Men. 24, Warwick-street, Gateshead.

MR. IVAN BERLYN.
Adelphi Theatre,
Strand.

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Disengaged. Character parts and Old Men.
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MR. T. GORDON BLYTH,
as Frank Bragden in "Brewster's Millions."
Theatre Royal, Leigh, Lancashire.

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MR. MATTHEW BOULTON.
Disengaged.
23, Holland-road, Brixton, S.W.

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"The Old Folks at Home."
Address, Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

MR. DESMOND BRANNIGAN.
At Liberty for few weeks.
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MR. H. T. BRICKWELL.
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All communications, 37, Denmark-hill, S.E.

MR. WILLIAM H. BROUGHAM.
Address,
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MR. C. A. WENLOCK BROWN.
Disengaged. Comedy and Character.
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MR. J. V. BRYANT.
John Rutherford in "Rutherford and Son."
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MR. ARTHUR BURNE.
Address, Wilmington, Sydenham, S.E.
Phone, 144 Sydenham.

MR. W. J. BUTLER.
Baroudi, in "Bella Donna."
Jan. 13, O.H., Scarborough.

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At liberty.
Add., Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.

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Light Comedy, Character, Old Men,
Legitimate. Town only. Disengaged.
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MR. S. J. CHAPMAN. The Ogre and A.S.M., Mr. Milton Bode's "Jack and the Beanstalk." This, Oxford. Next, Coventry.

MR. ALICK CHUMLEY.
The South Coast Repertory Company.
Address, 24, Pembroke-avenue, Hove.

MR. WALTER CLARKE.
Disengaged. Leads, Heavies.
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All coms., 32, Regent-street, London, W.

MR. C. F. COLLINGS.
At liberty.
Sapcote, Oppidans-road, N.W.

MR. SYDNEY COMPTON.
Brassett, in "Charley's Aunt."
Every afternoon and evening, Little Theatre, W.C.

MR. WILFRID COMPTON. Manager, J. F. Elliston's "Puss in Boots." MIRIAM HOLT, Light Com. Both Dis. Feb. Hip., Liverpool.

MR. MARTIN COMSTOCK.
"The Eternal City."
Theatre Royal (late Star), Swansea.

MR. TOM CONWAY.
As Ermyntrude the Cook, "Dick Whittington," Princes, Bristol. See notice, page 2.

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ACTORS ON FOUR FEET.

More than two centuries and a half have gone since the first four-footed actor, in the character of Pegasus, the mythical winged horse, who is said to have carried the thunder and lightning of Zeus, pranced and pawed on the stage to the open-mouthed delight of Stuart audiences; and since those far-away days hundreds of successors have charmed succeeding generations of theatregoers by the keenness and intelligence with which they have played their various rôles.

It will probably be a surprise to many readers to learn that, of the hundreds of animals whose acting is in our day such an unfailing pleasure on the stages of London and elsewhere, almost all have been trained in the stables of one man—Mr. Hales, of Wellington-street—who for many years past seems to have had a practical monopoly of supplying these actors on four feet, from horses to sheep, goats and donkeys.

"We take horses for training for the stage up to four years old," said one of Mr. Hales's assistants, "and it is astonishing how soon they tumble to the work. It is no exaggeration to say that they are as intelligent and quick to learn as most humans. And the way they learn their cues is something amazing. In "Gretna Green," an Alhambra ballet, for instance, one of the characters had to sing a song and to ride off the stage immediately afterwards. Every night at a certain line in the last verse the animal began to be restless, and the very second the last word was sung and the applause began, off he started for the wings."

One of the cleverest of all horse actors was undoubtedly "Old Jerry," who for many years was the idol of American theatregoers, and who usually appeared in war dramas. "Old Jerry," said an American actor friend of the writer, "was the 'quickest study' I have known, for a single rehearsal was often sufficient to make him letter perfect; and he knew his cues almost better than any actor or actress on the stage. When "The Still Alarm" was put on again one autumn a few years ago, Jerry had been spending the summer months on a farm. The actors, after a few months of rest or other engagements, had forgotten the minute business of this particular play; but not so Jerry. When it came to a certain place where he was to do a certain thing, he instantly remembered it, and did it faultlessly, actually giving the cue to the forgetful actors. And how he loved applause! I have seen him literally thrill at it; and, if by any rare chance it was not forthcoming, the look of indignant surprise on his face was most comical."

But to return from this digression to Mr. Hales' wonderful stables. "As a rule, a few days or weeks are sufficient to train a horse for his part; but occasionally it takes longer. For instance, it took two months to train the horses for Sir H. Beerbohm Tree's production of 'Richard II.' at His Majesty's some time ago. It was the armour that bothered them; they didn't take at all kindly to it; and it was only by gradually familiarising them with it—by donning first a helmet, and then other parts of the armour—that they became reconciled to it."

For racing scenes the work is naturally quicker and more simple. Many of the horses have had practical experience of racing; and in the small stable-yard they are soon taught to start at a gallop, take a hurdle, and turn sharply round again, all within the compass of an ordinary stage. But it is not by any means every candidate for stage honours who is able to gratify his ambition. There are duffers on four feet as on two; and, as my informant said, "it is not a bit of good trying to force them if they don't take kindly to it. It is labour wasted. Their vocation is *not* the Stage."

The most famous horse that has ever appeared on the English stage was undoubtedly Voluptuary, the great son of Cremorne, winner of the Derby in 1872, and himself the hero of the Grand National and many another steeplechase race. It was soon after winning the steeplechasing "Blue Riband" that Sir Augustus Harris bought Voluptuary to make his appearance in "The Prodigal Daughter" at Drury Lane. And those who saw the famous horse in that play, either in London or the provinces, will recall the almost rapturous delight with which he was everywhere greeted.

Sir Augustus Harris was an enthusiastic patron of animal actors, and provided many a sensational and thrilling moment on the Drury Lane stage, notably in "The Derby Winner" and "Cheer, Boys, Cheer!" The polo scene in the latter play will long be remembered as a superb piece of stage management. The clever and nimble-footed ponies which took part in it were all tried adepts at the game, had distinguished themselves at Hurlingham and elsewhere, and had all been lent to Sir Augustus by well-known devotees of the game. In the Matabele scene the horses employed were all military chargers familiar to the game of war. They figured later in "A Royal Divorce."

Among other recent plays in which horses have played a notable part are "A Life of Pleasure," at Drury Lane, in which a beautiful horse, called "Kismet," took a gallant leap (which once proved disastrous) over a chasm eighteen feet wide; "Over the Sticks," a thrilling scene in which was the leaping of a hurdle by six horses at full gallop; and "A Million of Money," in which a beautiful mare called "Million," supplied by Mr. Hales, played a conspicuous part. Nor must we forget those splendid racing plays, "The Flying Scud" (one of the first and the best), "New Babylon," and "A Run of Luck."

But the horse has by no means a monopoly of histrionic skill among animals. He has a very formidable rival indeed in the dog, whose docility and intelligence makes him a capital actor. There is, indeed, very little short of speaking that he cannot do, and do admirably, on the stage. As an acrobat he can, with equal ease, turn a back somersault or stand on his head on the top of a stick poised on the bridge of his instructor's nose. He can waltz gracefully, or do a skirt dance of which an accomplished danseuse need not be ashamed. And beyond these mechanical arts, he can play his part in a drama as intelligently as most humans.

One of the cleverest of dog actors of recent days is Lady Betty, who made a most successful début as the favourite spaniel of Charles I. at the Carisbrooke pageant, her devotion to the "Martyred King" moving many spectators to tears. Later she won all hearts as the Countess of Suffolk's spaniel in a subsequent episode, and as Queen Katherine's spaniel in the Winchester pageant.

But there are few animals which, at one time or another, have not acquitted themselves well behind the footlights. In the "Bondman" a very realistic scene presented a farmyard with three ideally placid cows (Mascot, Tomboy, and Daisy), a black horse rejoicing in the name of "Pudding," and a dog named "Bob," all of whom played their rustic parts to the life, and trod the stage as if they had been cradled on it.

Among other realistic effects provided in recent years for theatre and music-hall patrons have been a flock of sheep, pigeons, and a mule; eleven ducks, which had an embarrassing trick of straying into the orchestra; some pigs in a farmyard scene; and five hens and a cockerel, which crowed twice nightly, but not at matinées.

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PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS).

[In consequence of pressure on our space certain of our Provincial Reports are omitted this week].

ABERAVON—PORT TALBOT.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. D. Jones; Manager, Mr. Cass Renso.—This week: The Bouncing Peps, comedy acrobats; Billy Simpson, character vocalist; Marie Pascal, foot juggler; and pictures.

VINT'S PALACE.—Proprietors, Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Wm. Mitchell.—This week: Benedetti Brothers, musical acrobats; Amor and Roma, in "The Sailor and the Maid"; Mai, Ivy and Daisy Gilbey, dancers; and pictures.

TAIBACH PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, W. Davies and Co.; Manager, Mr. W. Davies.—This week: Hensle, comedy illusionist, assisted by Gertie Rees, speciality dancer; and pictures.

ABERDEEN.

HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Adair Nelson; Musical-Director, Mr. A. W. Loseby.—This week (once nightly): The D'Oyly Carte Opera Company present Monday, Thursday, and Saturday, "The Mikado"; Tuesday "Iolanthe," Wednesday "The Gondoliers," Friday "Patience," Saturday matinée "The Pirates of Penzance." The company includes: Mr. Henry Herbert, Mr. Strafford Moss, Mr. Leicester Tunks, Mr. Sydney Granville, Mr. Allen Morris, Mr. Frank Steward, Mr. Henry A. Lytton, Miss Olive Turner, Miss Beatrice Boarer, Miss Hilda Cross, Miss Ethel George, Miss Minnie Howell, and Miss Louie Rene. Touring-Manager, Mr. J. M. Gordon. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.15.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, the Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; Managing-Director and Licensee, Mr. Walter Gilbert.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Fred Karno presents "Perkins in Paris." The company includes: Elsie Lore, George Dapier, B. Crew, and J. C. Clark. The Dorrima Trio, vocalist; Gwendoline North, vocalist; Lilian Matthews and Fred Haming, in comedy sketch; Louis and Wain's Cat Studies; Frank le Dent, comedy juggler; the Five Whiteleyes; pictures.

PALACE.—Lessees, the Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Lawson Clark.—This week (twice nightly): Rose Elliott, singer; the Raymond Trio; Alpho, sleeping ventriloquist; pictures.

ABERTILLERY.

NEW METROPOLE.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. J. Seaborn and Bob Evans; Musical-Director, Mr. F. Drake.—This week: Mr. George Bowes presents "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves." The company includes Mr. Charles Towers, Miss Emmie King, and Miss Gladys Edwards.

ABERYSTWITH.

COLISEUM.—Manager, Mr. J. Humphreys.—This week: The F. R. Benson Shakespearean Company, in "The Merchant of Venice," "As You Like It," "Romeo and Juliet," "Macbeth," "The School for Scandal," and "Othello." The company includes: Mr. Henry Baynton, Mr. Laurence Cecil, Mr. J. T. Heline, Mr. Arthur Keene, Mr. George Manship, Mr. Leonard Parish, Mr. F. J. Richardson, Mr. Douglas Rubery, Mr. Herbert Smith, Mr. Jack Twyman, Mr. Kenneth Wickstead, Miss Kate Turner, Miss Hilda Dene, Miss Rosalind Grey, Miss Mollie Lloyd, Miss Joan Parminter, and Miss Violet Wilkinson.

ACCRINGTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. William Wilson: Resident-Manager, Mr. Fred W. Green.—This week: Messrs. Montgomery and Edwin C. Jazon's pantomime, "Cinderella," is the attraction here. As the Prince, Miss Rhoda Ring makes a handsome principal boy. Miss Ennis Parkes is a winsome Cinderella, her dancing and singing gaining general approbation. A roar of applause nightly greets that favourite comedian Leo Fields, who makes the part of Buttons stand out most prominently. Mr. George Norton is very entertaining as the Baron, and the Ugly Sisters are made remarkably funny by the Antipons. Messrs. Ryde and Beeman lend valuable aid in the merriment as the Court bailiffs. Miss Gertie Douglas is a dashing Dandini. Miss Ethel Pascoe is quite acceptable as the Marquis of Texas, and Miss Gertie Brailsford is charming as the Fairy Bountiful. A speciality act is introduced by Kioto.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmott; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Windsor Stevenson.—This week: Mr. Francis Laidler's company present "The Pride of Byzantia." The company includes: Messrs. J. Marsden, Reg Matthews, Arthur White, James Chippendale, Cliff Inman, Ralph Morton, Alfred Clifton, Miss Dorothy Vere, Miss Lucy Murray, Miss Madge Soutter, Miss Jessie Stern, Miss Edith Coles, Little Miss Mary O'Hara, and Little Miss Elsie Pennell.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. William Wilson; Manager, Mr. Harold Wilson.—This week: Mr. George Thornton's orchestra, selections on the gramophone, and pictures.

ALDERSHOT.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Clarence Sounes; General-Manager, Mr. Jack Gladwin; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. H. Willats.—The children's pantomime, "Little Red Riding Hood," is being presented at the Theatre Royal this week by Mr. George Brydon Phillips's company. The company includes: Miss Lilian Rose, Miss Dess Desborough, Cribb Brothers, Mr. Charles Gardener, Mr. Charles Comfrey, Mr. Fred Louin, Mr. Frank Douglas, and Mr. A. Lorne. Specialities are supplied by the Four Whitworths, the Cribbs, Miss Desborough, Hero de Rance.

ARBROATH.

MELVIN'S PICTURE PALACE.—Another week of the pantomime, "Babes in the Wood," by local children.

OLYMPIA.—Manager, Mr. Graham Brown.—This week: Scotland's comedian, J. A. Cassels, in latest successes; Day and Doreen, vocalists and dancers; the Nicol Brothers, in cycle act; and pictures.

PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. B. M. Fox. — This week: Transfield's Continental dogs and monkeys; Mysterious Irving, necromancer, scientist, illusionist; Harry Platter, American comedian and juggler; the Auto-boy; and pictures.

ASHINGTON.

MINERS' THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Thompson and Metcalfe; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Clegg.—This week (twice nightly): The Carbrey Boys, dancers; "Fra Diavalo," and other pictures; Burnetti, quick-change character musician. Children's picture matinées, Saturday, at 2 p.m.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Hirst Pavilion Co.; Resident-manager, Mr. Frank Percival.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Jack Arnold presents "Aladdin." The company includes: Miss Gertie Gordon, Mr. Dan Dunville, Mr. Bert. Grundon, Miss Mamie May, Mr. Geo. Thomas, Miss Maudie Coates, Miss Maud Harvie, Miss Daisy Forrester, Mr. Scott Glenn, Western Bros., and Mr. Jack MacDonald. Matinée, Saturday, at 2 p.m.

BUFFALO PICTURE PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. J. and E. Lamb.—This week (twice nightly): Paul Corrix, juggler; Terse and Sharp, singers and dancers; Joe Humphreys, vocal comedian; Saltley and Nibs, wire artistes. Children's matinée, Saturday, at 2 p.m.

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ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Owner and Manager, Mr. Charles Revill; Acting-Manager, Mr. Charles Revill, jun.; Musical-Director, Mr. W. H. Halton.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. James Kiddie presents "Cinderella." Touring-Manager, Mr. Jack E. Machin. The company includes: Mr. Willie Barrett, Mr. Will Kirk, Mr. Billy Wesley, Mr. Leo Bliss, Miss Queenie Mayor, Miss Lily Ennis, Miss May Grayce, Miss Florrie Porter, Miss Bertha Irving, Miss Sophie Parcezer, Miss Ada Tyrrell, Miss Lilian Dannel, Miss Gertie Newall, Mr. Edgar Selwyn, Mr. Robert Payne, Miss Bessie Wilson, Miss Vallie Valmore, Miss Lily Carney, Miss Violet White, Miss Freda Collard, Miss Muriel Bleasdale, and Miss Bertha Bartell. Next week: "Robinson Crusoe."

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. John Boyle; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred Heck.—This week (twice nightly): Gar Kiddie's pantomime, "Little Bo-Peep." The company includes: Miss Gladys Clare, Miss Marion Fern, Mr. Harry Talbot, Mr. Harry Ugar, Miss Alicia Vernon, Foley and Francis, Owens and Wills, Mr. Albert Kall Stern, Miss Lizzie Payne, Miss Beatrice Vernon, Miss Gertie Allman, Miss Amy Graham, Miss Lily Winter, Miss Lily Handley, Miss Doris Stanford, Miss Rose Scotton, Miss Edna Hartley, Miss Ida Dorrington, and Miss Flo Walton. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

PAVILION PICTURES.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Downes; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred Coleman.—This week: Miss Maud Ellison and company in comedy sketch, and pictures.

ASTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. Charles Barnard; Manager, Mr. Lewis Chapman.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Travis Green presents "Queen of the Redskins." The company includes: Mr. Jerrold Heather, Mr. Horace Booth, Mr. Bert Albert, Mr. Lionel Moore, Mr. Frank Litchfield, Mr. Edward Maples, Mr. Sam Edwards, Miss Jessie Campbell, Miss Amy Maitland, Mr. Arthur C. Russell, Miss Clara Oakes, Miss Christine Murray, Miss Hilda Shirley.

ATTERCLIFFE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Wilfrid Bryan.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Walter Gray, in juggling act; Miss Lilian Harvey, chorus vocalist; and pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee, Mr. Matt Raymond; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edward King; Musical-Conductor, Mr. Rowland Allen.—This week: Mr. Leo Tell, phenomenon; Vagabond West, described as the "Nightingale of the Slums"; the Scarlet Band; and pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

BANGOR.

NEW COUNTY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. James Hare; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. W. Smith-Neill; Musical-Director, Mr. John Bates.—Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday this week: The F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company (South) present "The Merchant of Venice," "The School for Scandal," and "As You Like It." The company consists of: Mr. Hugh Eldred, Mr. F. J. Richardson, Mr. Arthur Keane, Mr. George Manship, Mr. Douglas Rubery, Mr. Theodore Heline, Mr. Leonard Parish, Mr. Jack Twyman, Mr. Henry Baynton, Mr. Lawrence Cecil, Mr. A. Freshman, Mr. F. J. Strong, Mr. Kenneth F. Wicksteed, Mr. Cecil, Miss Mollie Lloyd, Mr. Fred Coyle, Miss Kate Turner, Miss Hilda Dene, Miss Foster, Miss Rosalind Grey, and Miss Violet Wilkinson. Business-Manager (for the Benson company), Mr. Charles Lake; General-Manager, Mr. W. H. Savery. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, and matinée (Saturday afternoon): Mr. J. Pitt Hardacre's company, in "East Lynne," including Miss Bessie Rignold.

PICTUREDROME.—Proprietor, Mr. John Codman; Manager, Mr. W. Lea.—This week: Harry Lee, light comedian and character vocalist, and pictures.

BARNSLEY.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, The Barnsley Empire Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Will Smithson.—This week: Ted Karno's company in "Hotel de Quick"; Burr and Retter; Renée D'Astre, comedienne; Alec Shaw, siffleur; Thornaby, lightning painter; McCann's Irish terriers; the Shadowlaugh, Uneada Troupe; Hynd's Roosters; and the Monckton Miners, prize vocalists.

PUBLIC HALL.—Lessees, The Royal York Picture Co.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Johnson.—This week: The Three Veldons, dancers; Little Vilma; and pictures.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.

ROYAL THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Stone.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Percy Hutchison and Co., in "Brewster's Millions." The company includes: Mr. Percy Hutchison, Mr. Gerald Fitzgerald, Mr. Ernest Deans, Mr. T. Gordon-Blyth, Mr. Henry Hampson, Mr. Herbert Marshall, Mr. V. S. Haye, Mr. Chas. Bedells, Mr. Henry Byatt, Mr. Walter Plinge, Mr. F. G. Thurstans, Mr. A. Paynter, Mr F. Hunter, Mr. W. Hughes, Messrs. Yates and Green, Mr. F. Gordon, Messrs. Forbes and Brown, Miss Lilias Earle, Miss Claire Milvain, Miss Gwenda Villiers, Miss Muriel Nevison, Miss Betty Linley, Miss Elsie Stranack. Touring-Manager, Mr. Charles Grove. Next week: "The Arcadians."

TIVOLI.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Newham; Musical-Director, Mr. T. H. Hulley.—This week (twice nightly): Irma Lorraine, in her poses and dances; Barry Mills and Kitty Mac; Marie Gros, comedienne and dancer; the Bell-Hattons, musicians; Harry Harvey, comedian; Bell and Meaton, in golfing skit; Layton and Douglas, character instrumentalists; John Wheil; and pictures.

BATH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Egbert Lewis; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lewis A. Long; Musical-Director, Mr. G. Alexander.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Dance presents "Kismet." The company includes: Mr. James Hughes, Mr. Fred Gage, Mr. Joseph Lynch, Mr. Arthur Mann, Mr. Walter H. Raymond, Mr. Norman St. George. Mr. Val Gulley, Mr. Frank Lester, Mr. Ernest Miller, Mr. Riddell Robinson, Miss Dorothy Whitaker, Miss Mara Collings, Miss Maud Ainslee, Miss Louie May, Mr. Robert Gray, Mr. Cecil Du Gue, Mr. Jay Ellis, Mr. H. Davidson, Mr. Leonard Mavis, Mr. Jack Kelly, Mr. H. Barber, Chung Lang, Mr. Philip Sefton, Mr. W. Hook Raymond, Miss Rene Challis, Miss Marion Hunt, Miss Madoline Rees. Touring-Manager, Mr. Charles Road-Night. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: "The Sunshine Girl."

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. S. Pearce; Manager, Mr. Leslie Fairfax.—This week (twice nightly): Linga Singh, Hindoo sorcerer; Tom E. Hood, comedian and dancer; Penman and Miller, acrobats; Tom Lovell, at the piano; Brothers Carlisle, vocalists and dancers; Dennis Murphy, dancer; Vera Wootton, comedienne; pictures.

BATLEY.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Charles Draycott; Musical-Director, Mr. James Heggie.—This week: Bert Grapho's Village Nuts; Lusi Taynia, comedienne and dancer; Bombardier Morris, singing artilleryman; Rose and Wold, comedy acrobats; Bert Groves, eccentric comedian; Le Blond; and the Sisters Ol Dare, aerial wonders.

VICTORIA HALL CINEMA.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Charles Draycott.—This week: Johnny Watson, Yorkshire comedian, and pictures.

BELFAST.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden; Acting-Manager, Mr. James M. McCann.—There is no abatement in the patronage bestowed on Mr. Fred W. Warden's beautiful pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk," now in the third week of its run at this theatre. One of the greatest hits has been made by Mr. Phil Smith, who, as Dame Trot, has furnished one of the finest impersonations of pantomime dame seen here for many years. His patter is fresh, and his songs are inimitably rendered. Miss Ruby Roya's vocalism as the Princess has won all hearts, and one must add a further tribute to Miss Violet Lloyd, who, as principal boy (Jack), works so untiringly to make the pantomime a success, her rendering of several catchy songs gaining her deserved encores nightly. Undoubtedly the pantomime is destined to have a triumphal run here ere it is transferred to Dublin.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Warden, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Fred W. Warden.—The attraction this week is the circus play, "For Mother's Sake," presented by Mr. Stanley Carlton's company. As the ringmaster, Luigi Ferroni, Mr. Stanley Carlton furnished an excellent impersonation, and no little skill was evinced by Miss Bubie Maud in her impersonation of Jacqueline, her acting calling for high praise. Mr. William Marshall was all that could possibly be desired as Old Geriot, and the rôle of Mathilde was efficiently sustained by Miss Charlotte Bellinger. Miss Jennie Hayden's impersonation of Fifi reflected no little credit on her, and other rôles were adequately presented by Messrs. James Hart, Albert D. Hayes, Harry Bryant, Sidney Barnes, F. H. Fortescue, Chas. Ross, Reginald Wilson, John Raby, and Fred Burns. Next week: "Her Life in London."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietors, Alexandra Theatre Co., Ltd.; Resident-Managing-Director, Mr. J. Leicester Jackson.—Drama is succeeded here by pantomime, as on Monday Mr. John Constantine's company presented "The Babes in the Wood." The cast is a capable one, and includes charming Miss Ethel Dunford, who sustained the rôle of Robin Hood in dashing style, her songs being loudly encored, and Miss Jen Asta was a pretty and accomplished Maid Marian. Mr. Dan Daly was excruciatingly funny as Baron Skeemalot, and the two Kentucky Girls were in every sense satisfactory. Sweet Innocence, the children's fairy, was capably interpreted by Miss Julia Asta, and Miss Jessie Ross appeared as Marjory May, a lace girl. May, the pet of the village, was cleverly sustained by Miss Nellie Hastings, and Nolan and Snowden assisted materially in the humorous side of the pantomime by their impersonations of Nobby Tyke and Soppy Sam. Specialities were provided by the Venetian Quartette of dancers; Nolan and Snowden, in a screaming act; Cecilia and Nethersole, in speciality act; the Kentucky Girls; and Mr. Dan Daly, comedian. The chorus and augmented orchestra were under the skilful direction of Mr. C. Renard.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Fred Willmot; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry T. Downs.—The leading attraction here is provided by Hanlon Bros. and company, who appear with unbounded success in pantomimic comedy, "The Haunted Hotel"; the Howard and Collinson Trio appear to the utmost advantage in pantomime sketch, "Fun in a China Shop"; and Chas. Frazer's amazing illusion, "Iona," is quite a feature of the programme. Miss Arabella Allen, in characters from Dickens, proves to be a most accomplished actress, and Gerald Wyatt and Denise Dirome stage their latest London success, "009 West." Also here are Stewart and Lorraine, Australian musicians; Bert Rayburn, comedian; and the Hipposcope.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. C. Laidler.—The top of the bill here is occupied by Mr. Tony Nelson, who appears in his gymnastic speciality, in which he is assisted by Miss Tilley. Mr. Nelson gained a capital reception, especially for his billiard cue feats. Polly and Day appear in their eccentric comedy sketch, which is quite a feature of the bill; and Chris Van Bern is undoubtedly a first-class entertainer. Miss Iva Voyce's vocalism is loudly and deservedly applauded, and also here are Alec Kennedy, character and vocal comedian; Ena Florence, Dutch comedienne and dancer; Irene Lester, contortionist; and the Bioscope.

NEW ALHAMBRA THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. Will White.—Some interesting pictures are being exhibited here, and the variety element is sustained by the Barringtons, in vocal and instrumental act, and Rosa Hamel, in humorous sketch act.

ST. GEORGE'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Herbert Rogers.—This week: Harry Arthurs, chorus comedian; W. H. Carson, trick roller cyclist; and pictures.

NEW PRINCESS THEATRE.—General-Manager. Mr. Ferris Pounds.—This week: Harry Tomlin, descriptive vocalist; and pictures.

BILSTON.

HIPPODROME AND PICTURE HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. Edwin C. Jazon; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Du Rocher.—"The Old Home" is being presented here by Mr. Evelyn A'Dell and his company. The chief parts are undertaken by Mr. Charles Franmore, Mr. Evelyn A'Dell, Mr. R. Brown, Mr. Cliffe H. Astley, Miss Amy Dalby, Miss Harriet Loydall, and Miss Ethel Astley.

WOOD'S PICTURE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. Thomas R. Wood.—In addition to a capital series of pictures, we have Allen and White, equilibrists and comedy acrobats; Elmore and Evans, popular comedy couple; and Cissy Nadine, contralto vocalist.

BIRKENHEAD.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Herbert M. King; Musical-Director, Mr. B. Srawley.—This week (once nightly): Mr. B. Iden Payne's company in "Katawampus." The company includes: Miss Esme Percy, Miss Sylvia Dawson, Miss Olivia Novina, Miss Isobel Carina, Mr. Philip Lawton, Miss Evelyn Craven, Miss Mabel Faraday, Mr. Thomas Doyle, Mr. George Braine, Miss Gladys Ullane, Mr. Alfred Crabtree, Mr. Erard Vernon, Miss May Russell, Mr. William West, Mr. Harold Greaves, Miss Edith Harsley, Miss Flo Davis, and Miss Jessie Goodwin. Touring-manager, Mr. Alfred Payne. Next week: Harry Day and Edward Lauri's pantomime, "Cinderella."

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Director of Entertainments, Mr. E. Dottridge; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Weston; Musical-Director, Mr. R. Tomlinson.—This week (twice nightly): Fred Granville's Productions, Ltd., present the pantomime "Beauty and the Beast." The company includes: Mesdames Jolly Dollie Barrie, Edna Page, Florence Lucerne, Veda Le Court, Ida May, Gertrude Gascoyne, Annie Terence, Joan Murray, Nellie Ranson, Marie Hilton, Elsie Boxwell Leslie Smith, Rose Brunswick, Daisy Kepler, Cissie Conroy, Sybil Clare, Messrs. Sammy Foster, Albert Juan, Alf Page, Bert Grapho, Ernie Dalton, and the Six Dapper Dandy Girls.

ARGYLE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. D. J. Clarke; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Keating; Musical-Director, Mr. Ernest Denney.—This week: Mr. G. P. Huntley and Mr. Harry Gratton, in "Buying a Gun"; Gintaro, Japanese juggler; Silent Tait and Aimee, in a pantomime novelty act; Horace Wheatley, Irish comedian and dancer; Gipsy Woolf and Girls, assisted by Doff Dee, in musical scena, "Jimmy Valentine's Pal"; Miss Daisy Griff, comedienne; Miss Sophie Forrest ("the idol of the hour"); Treflyn David and Irene Marriott, Welsh operatic vocalists; Mr. Carl Spencer, comedian; and Biorn's Royal Bioscope.

BIRMINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, The Theatre Royal (Birmingham), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Tom B. Davies; General-Manager, Mr. Philip Rodway; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank Smith.—Once nightly: "Goody Two Shoes." Enormous business continues, and there are indications of a record season. George Robey has the leading part, and he is a thorough hard worker. Fred Conquest is the Birmingham children's dog, and the Brothers McNaughton have considerably strengthened their position. Miss Maie Ash, the charming principal girl, has made many friends. Her singing of rag-time songs has been a pleasant feature of the production. Nellie Wigley is a dashing and attractive principal boy, and Nellie Gallafent, as second girl, has certainly scored a success.

PRINCE OF WALES.—Proprietors, The Prince of Wales Theatre (Birmingham), Ltd.; Managing Directors, Messrs. Walton Bode and John Hart; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Johnston.—A good all-round company appears in "Twinkle Little Star," and the performance is characterised by an abundance of variety throughout. Bert Gilbert, Marriott Edgar, Sam Walsh, and Foreman and Fannan are the leading mirth makers. Lulu Valli is a sweet and natural principal boy, and is encored for "Hello, Susie Green." Irene Dillon has been suffering from a severe cold, but she has shown her enthusiasm by going through her speaking part and dances, only omitting her songs. Miss Ivy Ray deputised successfully for her on a few occasions.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Salberg; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. T. Guest.—The management have had the unusual experience of having Bert Harrow, the leading comedian, and Ray Ford, principal girl, absent several nights owing to throat troubles. Fortunately, capital understudies were at hand. Frederick Norman did splendidly as Will Atkins, and Mona Magnet, who deputised for the principal girl, furnished the surprise of the season in Birmingham, being encored on every occasion for her songs and dances. Her performance was really wonderful, considering that she had only a few hours' notice to take the part. Myra Hammon has made a big hit as principal boy, and has considerably strengthened her repertoire by the inclusion of "Everybody's doing it." Monica Ellistone possesses a beautiful voice, and is encored at almost every performance. Manager Guest is having a very busy time, "house full" being the order of the business.

BORDESLEY PALACE. — Proprietors, Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Lessee, Mr. T. Morton Powell; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. E. Cox. — Once nightly, pantomime, "Cinderella."

COLISEUM. — Proprietors, Messrs. Alexander and Skardon; General-Manager, Mr. James Alexander. — Twice nightly: Messrs. Alexander and Skardon's company in "A Warning to Women." Messrs. Louis Lingard, Bert Oates, Roy Selfridge, Boyce Carleton, Leslie Cudd, Stanley Vine, Henri Stewart, Frank Irish, George Wade; and Misses Louie Lenora, Elsie Clarke, Lilian Maitland, and Ada Champion.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. H. Bebby; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. Williams.—Twice nightly: Phil Ray is very popular here. Charles Hart and J. Rosamund Johnson are two coloured comedians who give a refined and clever entertainment, introducing humorous patter and some rag-time; the Van Der Koors give a smart comedy illusionist entertainment; Harry Grey is amusing in his impersonation of a lady vocalist; Campbell and Barber submit a clever comedy cycling act; the Langinos are eccentrics of the modern type; Rose Cambrey is a dainty comedienne; and Olive Armidale a smart soubrette.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Gordon E. Craig; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. F. Coward. — Twice nightly: George Lashwood, the Beau Brummel of vaudeville, is successfully familiarising Birmingham with four of his most recent creations; Lottie Bellman and Sam Poluski are proving their entertaining versatility in bits of vaudeville; Captain Frank Taylor's dogs and monkeys give a clever and amusing entertainment; roller-skating, with some excellent comedy, is presented by Marcus and Gartelle; La Pia gives an entertainment beautiful in every way; Scottie Provan is an excellent solo and trick violinist; Edith Fink is a smart comedienne; and Hal Russ a good comedian.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, New Hippodrome (Birmingham), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Ben de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Hamilton. — Twice nightly: A clever comedy item, "A Pavement Rehearsal," is given by Beattie and Babs; pleasing violin playing, with able accompaniments, is given by Elsie Southgate and Sister; George Gregory and W. H. Rawlins present a good comedy sketch, "Mashing the Missus"; another comedy sketch, "The Key of the Situation," is presented by Jean Harkness and Co.; the Harvey Boys have a smart comedy boxing skit; Gene Crowe is a clever minstrel, with good-humoured patter; and Percy Clifford and Doris May are smart wooden shoe dancers.

GAIETY.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Walter Bellian.—Twice nightly: "The Adder's Tooth" is a strikingly vivid sketch that thoroughly grips the interest of the audience, and is admirably presented here by Louis Taylor's Co.; the contributions of Leo Dryden in song playlets are well received; Les Bollingers create wonderful pictures by the deft hanging of mere rags; the Eight Varsity Girls give a bright vocal scena; Tom Lenner is a smart comedian; the Rovers, clever comedy acrobats; agreeable singing and concertina playing is given by Minnie Paget; and Milner and Story present titbits of vaudeville.

ASTON HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Aston Hippodrome, Ltd.; Director of Entertainments, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. H. Middleton.—Twice nightly: Richard Nightingale's "Dick Whittington" is meeting with every success here, in spite of the fact that it has had to be considerably curtailed in length. Zella Vondi and Co. give a smart musical pot-pourri, in which some clever dancing and singing are introduced; the Biltons give a humorous mélange of comedy and vocalism; Stowe Brothers are clever acrobats; Mona Warwick is a dainty comedienne and dancer; and George Barton a popular comedian.

NEW PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. George Anthony.—Twice nightly: Pictures, and Mint and Mart, clever comedy cyclists; Edie Nella, impersonator; and T. Jardine Ellis, magician.

BISHOP AUCKLAND.

HIPPODROME.—Lessees, The Standard Electric Theatre, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank W. Ogden Smith; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Warren.—This week: Hall and Wilson, in motor act; Fred Read, concertina expert; the Herald Comedy Four; Clara Magda; and pictures.

EDEN THEATRE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. Chas. Elderton; Business-Manager, Mr. F. Steels.—This week: Mr. William De Lacy presents his pantomime, "Babes in the Wood." The company includes: Mr. Freddie Frome, Mr. De Lacy, the Elvinas, Messrs. Granville and Glenn, Mr. Tom Ashby, Miss Amy Osborne, Miss Florrie Curette, Miss Elsie Fowler, Miss Eny Durell, Miss Molly O'Connor, and the Crystal Sextette.

BLACKBURN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Harry Lyons.—This week: George Dance's company in "Ben-Hur." The company includes: Mr. Cecil Tressilian, Mr. Horace Ferley, Mr. Charles Smythe, Mr. Philip Desborough, Mr. Hallon Sinclair, Mr. Edward Valentine, Mr. Douglas Vigors, Mr. Walter Underwood, Mr. Vivan Harboard, Mr. J. Waller, Mr. Robert James, Mr. Charles Maverne, Mr. Eric Fane, Mr. Francis King, Mr. Jack Glyn, Mr. Fred Vernon, Mr. Arthur Walter, Miss Edith Blande, Miss Mildred Cottell, Miss Eva Rowland, Miss Elizabeth Watson, Miss Eileen Atherley. Manager, Mr. Bert Womack.

PALACE.—Principal Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Arthur Burton.—This week: Max Erard's great company of vaudevillians; Les Yost, novelty coloured clay modellers; the Two Lillies, in novelty mirror illusion, novelty dancers; Great Scott, the ladder king, musical and equilibrist juggler; the Five Tritons, electrically illuminated musical scena; Arthur Ferris, character comedian; Charlton, the conjurer; the Mayvilles, in Lilliputian novelty act; and pictures.

PRINCE'S.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Ersser; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Albert Hargreaves; Musical-Director, Mr. W. Haydock.—This week: Lena Stanton and Harry Joseph's pantomime, "Cinderella." The company includes: Miss Lena Stanton, Miss Kitty Kennedy Allen, Miss Marjorie Fraser, Miss Lena Joseph, Miss Ella Doran, Miss Mabel Aubrey, the Sisters Delhi, Miss Mabel Elphinstone, Mr. Fred Ellis, Mr. Cyril Dundas, Mr. T. Owen Hunter, Mr. Will Shephard, Mr. Frank Shephard, and Little Keeno.

STAR.—Messrs. Strong and Taylor.—This week: Pictures; and Fred Lyte, comedian.

ALEXANDRA HALL.—The Dowry Picture Co.—This week: Pictures; the Colonials, comedy duo; and Irene Lomax.

VICTORIA HALL.—Manager, Mr. John Charnley.—This week: Pictures; Gladys Warburton; and Wally Briggs.

CENTRAL HALL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. John Bradley.—This week: Pictures; and Tom Taylor, comedian.

BLACKPOOL.

HER MAJESTY'S OPERA HOUSE.—General-Manager, Mr. Jno. R. Huddlestone.—This week (once nightly): Mr. William Maclaren presents "Claudian." The company includes: Mr. William Maclaren, Mr. Ivor Langton, Mr. A. Nuttall, Mr. Jno. Abbaddue, Miss Millicent Ward, Little Geraldine Meredith, Mr. Ulick Burke, Miss Pamela Hodson, Miss Ida Crofts, Miss Mona Crofte, Miss Rose Moore, Miss Amy Forbes, Miss Merwal Rosebrook, Miss Lily C. Bandmann, Mr. Charles A. Roberts, Mr. Edward Grogan, Mr. William Watson, Mr. Victor Hardy, Mr. Robert S. R. Pittard, Mr. Basil Mitchell, Mr. Douglas Earle, Mr. Weston Hubbard, Mr. Cecil Maynard, Messrs. Lovell and Boyce, Mr. Pat Branigan, Miss Dudley Herbert. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2. Next week: "Robinson Crusoe."

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Harrop; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Waller; Musical-Director, Mr. Frank H. Jepson.—This week (once nightly): The Four Casinos, wooden shoe dancers; Al de Winne Duo; Cissie Lupino, character dancer; Jessie Albini; Edie Veno, comedian; Harry Frisket, comedy juggler; pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

BOGNOR.

KURSAAL THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Wm. Tate; Manager, Mr. Harold Reading.—This week: Mr. John Constantine's production of "The Babes in the Wood." The company includes: Miss Dorothy Macready, Miss Ethel Dunford, Miss Jen Asta, Mr. Billie Owen, Messrs. Dan Daly, Noland, and Snowden, Misses Flo Cecilia, Rosie Nethersole, Victoria Glenister, the Kentucky Girls, and the Venetian Quartette. Conductor, Mr. George Devon.

BOLTON.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Bolton Theatre and Entertainments, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Moncur.—This week (once nightly): Mr. J. F. Elliston presents "Cinderella." The company includes: Miss Viola Hamilton, Miss Meg Hamilton, Mr. Will Terry, Miss Ollie Dennie, Mr. Jack Cromo, Miss Dorothy Vernon, Miss Vic Ray, Mr. Chris Baker, Miss Gladys Harper, Mr. Will Seymour, Miss Ruby Reene, Miss Jean Robb. Touring-Manager, Mr. Will Seymour. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Hippodrome (Bolton), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur R. Harrison.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Harry Elliston presents "The Babes in the Wood." The company includes: Miss Mabel Osborn, Miss Mora Hersee, the Four Minims, Miss Marie May, Miss Clarice Handel, Miss Susie, Miss Vio, Mr. Van Lyndon, Mr. Harry Elliston, August and September, Miss Gladys Williams, Miss M. Seymour, Miss Gwennie Boyce, Miss Elsie Mayse, Miss Phyllis Price, Miss Nancy Dawn, Miss Pearl Lester, Miss Masie Hart, Miss Wilton, Miss Nellie Seymour, Miss Rosie May, Miss M. Yates. Touring-Manager, Mr. Dan Lyndon. Matinée, Monday, at 2.30.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietors, Bolton Theatre and Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. J. F. Elliston; Assistant-Acting-Manager, Mr. Alf. Booth.—This week (twice nightly): Johnson Clark, ventriloquist; Aerial Budds, trapeze artists; Harry Drew, banjo; Dix and Dox, novelty musicians; Ida Re'Vell, comedienne; David Paget, boy violinist; Lace and Leno, comedy duo; the Northcotes, vocal dustists; the Five Poncherrys, in wire act; pictures. Matinée, Monday, at 2.30.

BOOTLE.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. Pennington Estate Co.; Managing-Director, Mr. Harry Pennington.—This week: Mr. Arthur Carlton's "Robinson Crusoe." The company includes: Miss Lallah Davies, the Fimans, Mr. Norman Langford, Miss Lilian Fenn, Miss Ida Dorrie, Miss Dickie Dunn, Mr. George Spry, Mr. George Franklin, Mr. Wallace Boscoe, Miss Bostock, Mr. Carson Hicks, and Miss Queenie West.

BOSCOMBE.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. S. Charlton.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Edward Marris presents "Aladdin." The company includes: Miss Mollie Hackett, Miss Noreen Craigie, Miss Ethel Wilson, Miss Vera Vardon, Mr. Ted Conquest, Miss Ethel Prince, Mr. Phil Lester, Mr. Jimmy Slater, Mr. Ernie Westo, Mr. Reg. Wakefield, Mr. Freddy Rigby, Mr. Alec Lawson, Mr. Herbert Pearce, Mr. Frank Martyn, and Mr. J. Templar Ellis. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, 2.30.

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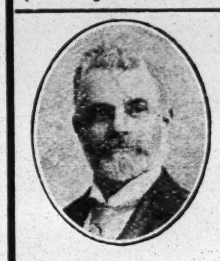

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BRADFORD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mr. John Hart; Manager, Mr. J. Richardson.—Mr. Hart's charming pantomime, "The House That Jack Built," is running merrily; we have not had a better "book," the scenic effects have not been surpassed, and the company is an able one all round. Miss Nan C. Hearne, the fine, dashing principal boy, is a great and deserving favourite; and Miss Madge Crichton (Charity) and Miss Daisy Stratton (Guy) are both very charming. Amongst the comedians—Mr. Kit Keen (Woof), Mr. H. Cole (Bill Durden), Mr. W. H. Irving (Sammy), and Mr. Will Ambro (Dame Durden)—there is a perfect combination and a fund of humour which keeps the audience in a merry mood.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. F. Laidler; General-Manager, Mr. N. Hepworth; Acting-Manager, Mr. F. Yearsley.—Mr. Laidler has scored another success with his bright pantomime, "Cinderella," a feature of which is the work of the well-trained juveniles, whose scenas are pretty and attractive; and there is no lack of fun and frolic either, for Mr. Reg. Bolton (Peter), Mr. V. Crawford (the Baron), and Messrs. F. Anderson and Ardene Lynden as the Ugly Sisters are a capital quartette of mirth providers. Miss Alice Wyatt, the attractive Prince Charming, has made heaps of friends; and Miss Susie Belmore has won all hearts as Cinderella.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percival Craig.—There was a complete change in the entertainment here on last Monday night, when Mr. John Tiller presented his bright, bustling and well-staged pantomime, "Cinderella," to a full house. There are some good scenic effects in the production, a feature of which is the dancing of the Excelsior Troupe and the Twelve Little Blossoms. The old familiar legend is told in the old sweet way, Miss Mary Brougham filling the part of Cinderella with considerable charm. The Prince Charming is Miss Ethel Negretti, who acts finely and sings with taste and expression. Mr. Fred Walmsley, a capital comedian, is well to the fore as Baron Toothick, and he is well supported in providing the fun by Mr. Sam Kelly as Wobbles, the page, by Messrs. Will and Geo. Harrison as the Broker's Men, and by Mesdames Beatrice Grosvenor and Fanny Wallace as the Ugly Sisters. Dandini is cleverly and smartly played by Miss Alice Maude, Miss Flo Florence makes an attractive Fairy, and the other characters are in good hands. There is no lack of fun, and the well-rendered songs are of the popular order.

PALACE.—Lessee, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Will A. Jackson.—Mr. P. T. Selbit presents two novelties here this week which are distinctly startling, viz., spirit painting, or the materialising of pictures in full view of the audience, and a sixteen-pound cheese, which refuses to be laid flat. A very amusing little comedy, "The Husband of Peggy," is well acted by Miss Sylvia Cavalho, Mr. C. Pembroke and Mr. A. Kennedy; the Spissell Brothers, American eccentrics, give a fine bustling turn; an athletic performance novel and classical in style is presented by the clever Payolas; and the remaining excellent contributions to the fine programme are by the Sisters Simms, vocalists and dancers; the Two Canadians (Ida Graham and Dorothy Gibson), in a unique and enjoyable musical act; Lily Dance, comedienne and wooden shoe dancer; Hal Bryan, the swell comedian; and pictures.

BRIGHTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Brighton Theatre Royal, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Lawson Lambert.—The pantomime, "Jack and the Beanstalk," continues to attract large and enthusiastic audiences. Prominent features of the production are the elaborate and magnificent scenery, the rich and handsome dresses, and the exquisitely graceful dancing of Miss Madeline Rossiter (Princess Zoe). Miss Nancy Langtyne (Jack) displays very artistic vocalisation; Miss Lily Hayes's step dancing is warmly appreciated; and the comedy element is admirably sustained by Mr. Laurie Wylie (Dame Durden), Mr. Sam Hilton (Squire), Mr. Harry Marlow (Swank), Mr. Bert Edwards (Peter), and Mr. Will Gane (Simple Simon).

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Managing-Director, Mr. Ernest Gates; General-Manager, Mr. Ben Court.—The pantomime "Red Riding Hood" is proving a very great success. Miss Louie Beckmann is very popular as Boy Blue, her acting and singing being highly artistic; Miss Queenie Fssex makes a bright and captivating Red Riding Hood; Messrs. Stacey and Williams afford unbounded fun as Jimmy Green and Johnny Stout respectively; Mr. George Campbell is an amusing Dame Durden; and able support is rendered by Miss V. Hartley (Tommy Tucker), Miss Lily Hartley (Miss Muffit), Mr. Charles Russell (Squire), Mr. Frank Bolger (Wolf), and Miss Dora Sawyer (Fairy Electrica). The pantomime is lavishly staged and mounted, and very prettily dressed, and seems destined to enjoy a long and prosperous run.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. W. H. Boardsman.—The following are here this week: Eugene Stratton, the favourite coon artiste; Mazuz and Mazette, quaint humorists; Rembrandt, cartoonist; Shield and Rogers, the cowboy and the Indian, in amazing feats; Mr. Harry M. Vernon's company, in "Canada," a sketch in which Mr. Archie Chappell and Mr. R. Mansell Fane are especially prominent; Willie Zimmerman, mimic and impersonator; Edna Payne, in impressions of star artistes; Aimée Robert, dialect impressionist; and Dorris and Francis, dancers.

WEST PIER THEATRE.—Secretary, Mr. A. W. Scholey.—Mr. Arthur Hardy's company is here with "The Speckled Band." Mr. Walter Ringham achieves success as Dr. Grimesby Rylott; Miss Joan Marshall is duly sympathetic as Enid Stonor; Mr. A. Corney Grain gives a clever enactment of Sherlock Holmes; and praiseworthy support is rendered by Master Frederick Reynders (Billy), Mr. Gerald Rodgers (Dr. Watson), Miss Agnes Marey (Mrs. Staunton), and Mr. Robert Drew (Rodgers).

PALACE PIER.—Manager, Mr. Gilbert Large.—In the theatre the boards are occupied by Mr. Edward Marris's pantomime, "Dick Whittington." Miss Rosie Sylvester makes a dashing Dick; and Miss Phyllis Yorke a graceful Alice Fitzwarren. Mr. Harry Loftus is well suited as Alderman Fitzwarren; Mr. Alex Daimler is a quaint Idle Jack; Mr. Ernest Sephton is distinctly funny as Julia, the dame; Mr. Andy Marsh and Mr. George Mumford as the Captain and Mate respectively of the Saucy Sally are a very diverting pair; Mr. Bert Martell cleverly represents the Cat; Miss Queenie Warden is a lively Polly, and her troupe of dancers are distinctly effective. In the Palace Pier Winter Garden performances are given every morning, afternoon and evening by Herr Meny's Elite Orchestra, and the Victorians, vaudeville entertainers.

COURT THEATRE.—Proprietors, Brighton Court Theatre, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mrs. M. Barrasford; Manager, Mr. H. R. Lynn.—This week (twice nightly): Cameron Matthews and Jessamine Newcombe, in "The Supreme Sacrifice"; Terry Moss, singer and comedian; Baby Woolf, comedienne and dancer; and pictures. Picture matinées, Monday and Saturday, at 3. Variety matinée, Thursday, at 3.

BRISTOL.

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, the Representatives of the late Mr. J. M. Chute; Resident-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. Ellis Miller; Musical-Director, Mr. G. R. Chapman; Stage-Manager, Mr. Henry Turner.—"Dick Whittington" continues to attract full houses at each performance. The pantomime goes admirably from start to finish, the scenery is remarkably good, and the dresses are rich, tasteful, and appropriate. Miss Winifred Ward is in every way pleasing as Dick. She works hard and most successfully. Miss Nora Grey makes a charming Alice; she had a new song on Monday evening, "I do like you, Susie, in your pretty Sunday clothes." It went remarkably well and was much applauded. Mr. Jack Hurst scores heavily as the Cat; it is a really clever performance, and his quaint antics create much merriment. Mr. George French presents quite a study as Alderman Fitzwarren, and his speciality songs are much appreciated. Mr. Tom Conway does capitally as the Cook; Miss Beatrice Collier makes a charming Princess, and she is an expert dancer; and the ballet, and also the Olympian Quartette, present many charming dances. There appears to be every prospect of a highly successful run for the pantomime.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Mrs. Emma Carpenter; General-Manager, Mr. F. W. Carpenter; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. C. Alty; Musical-Director, Mr. Edwin Jacobs; Stage-Manager, Mr. Charles P. Cooke.—"Cinderella" is going strong here. There is a large attendance at each performance, and the pantomime evidently pleases all parts of the house. The staging is excellent, both with regard to scenery and dresses, and there are plenty of pretty songs and charming dances. Miss Anna Schuberth is highly successful as Prince Charming; her presence is imposing, her movements are graceful, she is an accomplished vocalist, and all her songs are warmly applauded. Miss Alice Digby acts with refinement as Cinderella, she speaks her lines distinctly, sings in good style, and is sufficiently vivacious. Miss Nellie Merton makes a dashing Dandini, and, with Mr. George Rydon, who acts cleverly as Pickles, is highly successful with speciality songs and dances. Miss Grace Allison is pleasing as the Fairy Godmother; she both acts and speaks effectively, and her vocal numbers are well rendered. Some pretty dances are contributed by the De Vene Quartette, and the stately ballet and international dances in Scene V. (the Prince's Ball) were arranged by Miss Alice Digby.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Resident-Manager, Mr. N. Preston-Hilary; Assistant-Manager, Mr. F. S. Green; Musical-Director, Mr. Howard W. Galpin.—This is the last week of the great sensational water spectacle, "The Sands o' Dee," which has proved highly attractive. The sketch is well played and effectively staged, independently of the water spectacle. Miss Ruth Maitland displays considerable dramatic ability as Mary, her exposition of horror and despair when the water is closing over her being very real. Mr. Shirley acts naturally as the old boatman, Rube Stephens; Mr. Stephen Sorley plays conscientiously as the objectionable Basil Dean; and the other parts are all capitally taken by Mr. Rupert Stretfield. Mr. Henry Dore, Little Dorothy Edwards, and Miss Helen Graeme. The final scene is very realistic, the waves are enormous, and the diving horse takes to the water gallantly. Albertus, Millar, and company amuse with their speciality, "Fun at the Fair"; Carlisle and Wellmon entertain with piano playing and singing catchy songs, their own compositions; Goliath, the giant horse, does a series of circus acts very neatly, considering he is said to weigh over 2,100 lbs.; Conway George is successful in vocal and character impressions; the Four Elles present Viennese and Spanish dances with exceptional grace and agility; Rinaldo, the wandering violinist, plays his instrument with great ability; and Deborah Volar and company please with their musical comedy sketch, "Burnham Beeches," which is nicely staged. Interesting and amusing bioscope pictures are also included in the entertainment.

EMPIRE. — Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Lucas; Musical-Director, Mr. Louis Gowwitch.—Edgar K. Favelle presents a clever vaudeville, entitled "Wedgwood Blue," with original music composed by Tom Sutton; Harry Roxbury's company amuse with a domestic extravaganza, "Hang It"; Sidney Camp's company, including Miss Zoe Damore, successfully present a spectacular mystery, "Dream Pictures," which are interesting and artistically produced; Belle and Austin do well with their comedy sketch, "A Fatal Rehearsal"; the Three Dancing Middies do a good dancing turn; Billie Binford is a pleasing comedienne; Victor, billed as "The One and Only," obtains appreciation; and Lawrence Barclay, comedian, is much applauded. Interesting pictures conclude.

BEDMINSTER HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. J. Carter; Musical-Director, Mr. Maitland de Lacy.—The Viennese Trio of musicians successfully present a combination of excellent instrumental music and quaint comedy; Alice Hollander has a fine mezzo-soprano voice, and she renders her songs with artistic taste. Willard is stated to be making his first appearance in England. His turn is a very curious one. He "grows while you wait," increasing his height by seven inches as he stands before the audience, and he also elongates his legs, arms, and neck from three to four inches. Frank Mayo and company present a capital sketch, entitled "The Bargain"; the Two Boyds sing and dance well; the Christie Duo do well with their dancing scena; the Kavanaghs are smart as comedy club jugglers and tennis racquet spinners; and George Prince, comedian, is appreciated. Pictures conclude.

PALACE.—Manager, Mr. Horace Livermore; Musical-Director, Mr. Frederic Fey.—The vocalists for this week are Miss Freya Hedin, soprano; and Mr. Vincent Dare, baritone. A fine film in three parts is shown illustrating the story of "Monte Cristo," also a complete pantomime of "The Babes in the Wood." Hamilton's excursions and diorama of "A Tour Through India" is also another intercsting item in an enjoyable entertainment.

VICTORIA ROOMS.—There was a fine performance here of "Faust" on Monday evening by the O'Mara Opera Company. Mr. Joseph O'Mara presented a fine exposition of the title-rôle. He sang magnificently and acted excellently, the famous "All hail! thou dwelling pure and holy," receiving a storm of applause. Miss Rita Wallace as Marguerite also both sang and acted exceptionally well; her fresh and clear tones and charming appearance enabled her to do full justice to the part. Mr. Kingsley Lark sang and acted excellently as Mephistopheles; Mr. Alec Tait-Knight made the most of his opportunities as Valentine; and Miss Ann Lindsey displayed attractive vocalisation as Siebel, the pretty flower song being rendered most charmingly. The chorus did good work, and the large orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Harrison Frewin, did full justice to the music throughout the performance.

BROUGHTON.

VICTORIA THEATRE. — Sole Proprietors, Messrs. J. P. Moore and Montague Beaudyn; Manager, Mr. Arthur Collingwood.—"Under the Iron Heel" is presented here (twice nightly) by Mr. Beaudyn's company, including Mr. Wm. Melvyn, Mr. Jack Darnley, Mr. Arthur Pringle, Mr. A. A. Tomlin, Mr. Charles Carren, Mr. A. R. Harper, Mr. Arthur Britton, Mr. Geo. Overs, Mr. Fred M. Hood, Miss Phyllis Rae, Miss Cissie St. Elmo, and Miss Irene Munro.

BURNLEY.

VICTORIA OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. C. Horner.—This week (once nightly): The F. R. Benson Shakespearean Company present: Monday, "Hamlet"; Tuesday, "If I Were King"; Wednesday, "The Merry Wives of Windsor"; Friday, "The Taming of the Shrew." The company includes: Charles Warburton, John Cairns, Duncan Yarrow, Andrew Leigh, Basil Osborne, Horace Braham, E. Pardoe Woodman, Basil Rathbone, Edmund Sully, S. B. Bickmore, Frank Freeman, F. Woodcock Denman, Thea Johnson, Brunhold Muller, Evelyn Vanderzee, Muriel Dawn, Peggy Talbot Daniel, Madge K. Yardley, Henry Herbert, Gladys Vanderzee. Matinée, Saturday, at 2, "The Merchant of Venice." Next week: "Cinderella."

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. C. Horner.—This week (twice nightly): Nixon Grey, comedian; the Three Alvarettas, in comedy act; Rosie Reys, vocalist; Pickard and West, gymnasts; Jack Grant and Alice Chant, comedians and dancers; Godfrey and Vedo, entertainers; the Rangers, trick and comedy cyclists; John and Bertha Gleeson and Fred Houlihan, in dance and music; pictures.

PALACE.—Proprietors, Palace and Hippodrome (Burnley), Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. J. Rintoul.—This week (twice nightly): Mark Sheridan; Ross and Lewis; Rowland, brainstorm juggler; Blake and Granby, in "The System"; Little Pam, boy comedian and dancer; Molly Baldwin, soprano; Anna Dorothy, comedienne; pictures.

BURSLEM.

THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Sole Owners, Messrs. James P. Moore and Montague Beaudyn; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest G. Lord.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Fred Gresham's dramatic and variety company in "The Flowers of the Forest," "Lady Audley's Secret," and "The Moat Farm Mystery." Pictures every evening. Matinée, Saturday, 3.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett; Business-Manager, Mr. E. De Hague Body.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George N. Ballanger presents "King of the Wild West." The company includes: Young Buffalo, Mr. Ernest A. Foster, Mr. Robert Chambers, Mr. Gus Ruhlin, Mr. F. Morgan, Mr. Arthur C. Goff, Mr. Bob Delamere, Mr. Ali Delamere, Mr. E. L. Restof, Mr. J. Reynard, Mr. J. Hudson Brownlee, Mr. Ralph Brambles, Mr. C. Shade, Mr. W. Thomas, Mr. A. Solloway, Mr. E. Brunt, Mr. Walter Hassel, Mr. Jack Williams, Mr. Philip Myatt, Mr. J. Bradshaw, Mr. J. Pointing, Mr. B. Ratcliffe, Mr. Howard Aldwell, Miss Lucy Burrows, Miss Kitty Clover, Miss Caroline May Blaney, William Eagle Elk, Mr. Joseph Bullman, Black Calf, White Wing, Blue Sky, Little Stream, White Cloud, and Red Eagle. Touring-Manager, Mr. Frank Mundill. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: "The Emerald Isle."

BURY (Lancs.).

ROYAL.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Acting-Manager, Mr. J. G. McPherson.—This week: "The Hope." The company includes: Messrs. Franklyn Bellamy, J. V. L. Leigh, R. S. Trelawney, Montague Weston, Harry Hardy, Frank Sealey, Clifford Cobbe, and Harry Phydora; Misses Enid G. Forde, Hilda Vaughan, Daisy Gwynne, Irene Gordon, Freda Wharton, and Ivy Shepperd.

CIRCUS OF VARIETIES. — Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Assistant-Acting-Manager, Mr. J. G. McPherson.—This week: Will and Roze, comedy artistes; Charles Ousley, coloured star artiste; and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Sims.—This week: Alman Correze, athlete and juggler; Horace Ashton, rag-time vocalist and dancer; Preston Holmes, in musical speciality act; the Sisters Selwyn, vocalists and dancers; Jean Alexandre, mimic; Renaud Lockwood and company, in comic playlet; Jean Mardin and Thomas Rhyde, in "A Romance of the Golden West"; and the O'Malleys, comedy couple.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee, Miss Florence Glossop-Harris; General-Manager, Mr. Max Jerome; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Mason.—Thursday, Friday, and Saturday: Mr. Chas. Macdona and Mr. Lionel Rignold present "Fanny's First Play." The company includes: Mr. Chas. Macdona, Mr. Lionel Rignold, Mr. Algernon Syms, Mr. William Stack, Miss Marie Rignold, Miss Nellie Hodson, &c.

BUXTON.

OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, The Buxton Gardens Co., Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Fred T. Boucher; Deputy, Mr. G. Taylor.—This week: Mr. Philip Brahms' company, the Grotesques (originated by Vere Smith), including Mr. Vivian Foster, Mr. Hugh Bayley, Mr. Harry Hilliard, Mr. Ivan Campbell, Mr. Albert Simner, Miss Marjory Blythe, Miss Ethel Spencer, and Miss Irené Greville, in musical mixtures and their famous burlesque, "The Village Concert," and other medleys.

HIPPODROME. Lessee and Manager, Mr. Allan Milton.—This week: Marie Santol and company of merry Japs; J. Mack, bird mimic; and pictures. Matinées, Wednesdays and Saturdays. Musical-director, Mr. William le Roy.

CAMBRIDGE.

NEW THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. B. Redfern, J.P., D.L.—This week (twice nightly: W. Paskins' Eight Frolics, dancers; George and Tom, comedy duo; Ted Cowan, comedian; Jack White and company, in "What Her Husband Saw"; Miss Connie Duprey, comedienne; Walter Stanley, comedian; Frank Sylvo, comedy juggler; Rob, Ivy and Lyn, in "A Garden of Music."

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Musical-Director, Mr. Davis.—This week (twice nightly): The Amio Trio, acrobatic comedians; Leo Rene, vocalist and dancer; Edgar Budden, comedian and dancer; Gladys Lyndon, vocalist; Pri Nella, singer, dancer, and mandoline player; Cliff and Vanston, in entertainment of song, story and music; and pictures. Children's picture matinée. Saturday, 3.

CARDIFF.

NEW THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Robert Redford.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. Milton Bode and Robert Redford present "The Forty Thieves." The company includes: Mr. Jack Sheridan, Mr. Willie Garvey, Mr. Leonard May, Mr. Albert Felino, Miss Ethel Eden, Miss Dorothy Craske, Little Jack Marks, Mr. Archie McCaig, Miss Eda Walden, Miss Renee Reel, Mr. Wilfred E. Brandon, Mr. J. Ward, Mr. Ivan Kotchinsky.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Beaufort.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Arthur Carlton presents "Dick Whittington." The company includes: Maggie Bowman, Nita Dunville, Harry Gilmore, Fred Dunville, Tom Owen, Tom Morton, Wheeler and Wilson, Lizette Kitchen, W. H. Gatty, Roberta Williams, Renée Gem, Florence Woolley, Minnie Moore, Jennie Harper, Flo. Snoden, J. Grier.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. J. Taylor; Musical-Director Mr. D. Griffiths.—This week: Houdini; Cooper and Lait; G. W. Hunter; Great Weiland; Tom Parker; Peter and Potts; Casselli Sisters; Ferry Corwey; and Bioscope.

CARLISLE.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Sidney Bacon; Resident-Manager, Mr. Harry Brown.—This week (once nightly): The Royal Carl Rosa Opera Co. Monday, "Carmen"; Tuesday, "Mignon"; Wednesday, "Mefistofele"; Thursday, "Faust"; Friday, "The Magic Flute"; Saturday matinée, 2, "Tannhäuser"; Saturday evening, "Il Trovatore." The company includes: E. C. Hedmondt, Arthur Winckworth, Frederick Clendon, Charles Neville, Leslie Austin, William O'Connor, Miriam Licette, Elibeth Burgess, Jean Douglas Wilson, Signe Becker, Winifred Geverding, Gladys Deane, Janet Hemsley, Dorothy Lawson-Taylor, and Beatrice Miranda.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. J. D. Askew.—This week (twice nightly): Duncan's Royal Scotch Collies; Eileen Hall, soprano; the Gilberts, in bounding cable act; the Musical McGregors; the Dennisons, singers and dancers; Queenie May, vocalist; Avis and Barre, comedy conjurers; Phil Rees's Stable Lads in "After the Trial"; pictures.

CARMARTHEN.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACE.—Proprietors, Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. E. Orton.—This week: Harry Gold, Irish-American vocal comedian, and pictures.

CASTLEFORD.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Charles Gadsby and Sons; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Masterman.—This week (once nightly): Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds presents (Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday), "The King's Romance." The company includes: Mr. E. Vivian Edmonds, Mr. Cyril T. Craven, Mr. Adrian Bryne, Mr. Leon Courtville, Mr. John Villiers, Mr. Ed. T. Cudd, Mr. W. Day, Mr. Thos. Sutherland, Mr. Jack Howard, Mr. William Sands, Miss Lalla Stanhope, Miss Lillian Murray, and Miss Ethel Vinroy.

QUEEN'S. — Proprietors, Castleford Queen's Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Directors, Messrs. Beanland and Emerson. — This week (once nightly): Charles Hatch, comedian; Rexhart, juggler; pictures. Picture matinées, Monday and Saturday, at 3 p.m.

CHATHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. C. and L. B. Barnard; Acting-Manager, Mr. Lionel Barnard; Musical-Director, Mr. Albert E. Vicary.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Dance presents "The Whip." The company includes: Mr. William Kershaw, Mr. Fred Morgan, Mr. J. Gerald Jordan, Mr. Laurence Tessier, Mr. Eric Hudson, Mr. Ernest Darrell, Mr. Douglas Campbell, Mr. Bert Threadgift, Mr. Frank G. Vyvyan, Miss Mary Thorne, Miss Ruth Henton, Miss Madge Girdlestone, Miss Maisie Stuart, Miss S. Vane, Miss Marie Greenhous, Miss Clara Fenn, Miss Jean Royce, Miss Gladys Bell, Miss Nellie Vincent, Mr. Dan Thomas, Mr. W. Desborough, Mr. F. Eager, Mr. Percy Rowland, Mr. Claud Allingham, Mr. Hugh Densmore, and Mr. Harry Taylor. Touring-Manager, Mr. Walter Wright. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30.

EMPIRE. — Joint Managing-Directors, Mr. Oswald Stoll and Alderman H. E. Davis, J.P., C.C.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Alan D. Dunbar.—This week (twice nightly): Maskelyne and Devant's Mystery, "The Window of the Haunted House"; Foot-gers, mimic; Hinton and Wootton; Guy and Grahame, entertainers; Herbert la Martine, dancer; Itila de Medici; and pictures.

BARNARD'S PALACE OF VARIETIES.—This week (twice nightly): Frank F. Street presents "The Gun Fighter." The company includes: Mr. Frank F. Street, Mr. W. H. Walker, Mr. W. Lonsdale, Mr. C. Atkinson, Miss Katie Eplett, and Miss Mystya Naveau; Delvaine's marionettes, entertainers; F. V. St. Clair, vocalist; Rimmer and Beaumont; Alberto Troupe, lady equilibrists; Jennie Venton, comedienne and dancer; Shirley and Ransome present "The Separation Order"; and pictures.

CHELTENHAM.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE. — General-Manager, Mr. H. Oswald Redford.—The Cheltenham pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," concludes its successful run this week. Miss Elsie Allen is a very popular Robinson, and her rendering of "Alexander's rag-time band"—continues the big hit; Miss Jean Allistone as Polly has won all hearts, a charming new duet sung by her and Robinson, "My beautiful doll," being an added attraction; the Skipper and the Mate, Messrs. Denis Lyndon and Harry Benet introduce a new comic interlude, "The Wishing Hat," and keep the audience in a continuous roar; Mr. E. Harvey White, as the Dame, gives a really droll variant of the part; Mr. David Keir, as Friday, and M. Leon Dubois, as the Monkey, are clever acrobats, the latter gentleman's antics greatly appealing to the children; Mr. Teddy Carlton (Will Atkins) has a new song which is an admirable addition, "Who were you with last night?" The comedians are a tip-top lot: Miss Ruth Varnia is an accomplished principal dancer; Mr. Cyril Chambers, in the dual rôle of the Sultan and Davy Jones, sings himself nightly into favour; the Fairy Aphrodite is charmingly impersonated by Miss Julia Williams.

POOLE'S PICTURE PALACE.—Manager, Mr. Shakspere Shenton. — This week: Four Rio Bros., in gymnastic evolutions; Leonard Ure, soldier vocalist and comedian; and pictures.

THEATRE OF VARIETIES AND CINEMA DE LUXE.—Manager, Captain N. Blood.—This week: A. G. Spry, comedian; Finlay Lowe, baritone; Miss Margaret Ogilvie, in light comedy excerpts; and pictures.

CHESTERFIELD.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Hippodromes, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. R. Sargisson; Musical-Director, Mr. Bertram Brennan.—This week (twice nightly): Walter Howard presents "The Lifeguardsman." The company includes: Mr. Ernest H. G. Cox, Mr. Charles Whitlock, Miss Elsie Garnham, Mr. Lionel Bute, Mr. Max Wakeman, Mr. Melville Chiswell, Mr. J. G. Maine, Mr. Wilfred Graham, Mr. W. S. Hardy, Mr. George Lawrence, Mr. Edward Grey, Mr. A. E. Shuttleworth, Mr. E. A. Linnecar, Miss Florence Williams, Miss Eileen Gerard, and Miss Miriam Pritchett.

CLYDEBANK.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Resident-Manager, Major George Mitchell.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. A. W. P. Kingston and company in "His Gipsy Wife," "Our Sailor Lad," and "Rollicking Barney." The company includes: Mr. Ashley Carrington, Mr. R. Garrow, Mr. Edward Lanton, Miss Emily Peel, Miss Maud M'Nally, Miss Madge Young, Mr.

. . . "like most of his fellow-knights, he was much addicted to simmering in the hottest water that he could possibly endure."

—"SIR NIGEL," by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

After a heavy day's fighting, or jousting, or travel, the sinewy warriors of those days of chivalry restored their tired muscles by "simmering" in hot water.

True, it is not likely that they left their armour on. And we have no authority for the picture. It is simply put there to attract the attention of the reader in a light-hearted fashion to a serious fact—which all too many people overlook—

A bath may be ever so restful, ever so pleasant, taken in the ordinary way. But a bath without mustard in it is no more to be compared with a *mustard*-bath for its benefits to the skin, the nerves, the vital organs—than is the ancient wooden tub to be compared with the gleaming porcelain bath of to-day.

The delightful exhilaration of a bath with mustard in it is a pleasure which, once experienced, becomes a joyous habit. But the delightful sensation is not the sole reason for making a mustard-bath a daily habit.

In the bath, mustard has a really wonderful effect—scientifically proved, and attributed by physicians to the extraordinary combination of oils, beneficial acids and crystals of which mustard consists.

It dilates the blood-vessels of the skin. These blood-vessels have vascular communication with the great organs of the body. Thus the blood-pressure in the great organs is relieved and evenly distributed.

That is why mustard in the bath is of such great value. It is especially popular as a relief of headache, colds and chills. After any occupation or pastime, a mustard-bath is a unique tonic.

Why not make your bath a pleasure, a beautifier and a tonic as well? Colman's Mustard will do it.

Dealers sell Colman's Bath-Mustard, specially prepared for the bath, and in handy bath-sized packets. Colman's is *so* good, and so cheap, too. Try it—just once!

'Let Muster Mistard prepare your bath.'

A. W. B. Kingston, Mr. James T. Dale, Mr. Neil Ferris, Mr. Cunliffe Carter, Mr. George C. Graham, and Mr. Harry Egar.

COLCHESTER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Chas. Macdona; Lessee and Manager, Mr. F. Graham Macdona.—This week: Mr. Geo. Bowes presents "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves." The company includes: Mr. Jack Kendrick, Miss Flo Inman, Miss Ivy Bartinelli, Mr. Colin Carlisle, Mr. Peter Pan, Mr. George Griest, Mr. Phil Inglis, Mr. J. Ebsworth, Mr. H. Alvey. Miss Minnie Dairn, Miss Dorothy Pugh Davis, Miss Rose Gandy, Miss Doris Clark, Miss Olive Mackenzie, Miss Elsise McCartney, Miss Vera Constance, Miss Verona Velda, Miss Daisy Morton, Miss Annie Long, Miss Laura Smith, Miss Dulce Duval, Miss Edith Evans, Mr. Arthur Bright, Miss Lilian Terry, Miss Jehanne D'Arc, Miss Queenie Constance, Miss Violet Aubrey, Miss Kathleen Pelham, Miss Aubrey Pelham, Miss Cissie Stockton, Malvina, Madge, and Marie. Touring-manager, Mr. Robin Carlisle. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Hippodrome, Colchester, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. C. Turner Hallett; Musical-Director, Mr. Karl Heber.—This week (twice nightly): Gracie Hunt, comedienne; Revere and Revell, comedy acrobats; Charles M. Fanning, patter comedian; J. F. Kempton, in his latest success, "Scenes from Wild Australia"; pictures.

CONSETT.

NEW TOWN HALL.—This week (twice nightly): The Fuji Family, Japanese artistes; Julian Ross, actor-vocalist; and pictures.

ROYAL PICTURE HOUSE.—Lessees, Messrs. Smart and Todd.—This week (twice nightly): Dezso Kordy ('cellist) and company in musical act; Selwyn and Willows, athletes; and pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

CORK.

OPERA HOUSE.—Manager, Mr. Frank J. Pitt.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Chalmers Mackey presents "The Wearin' o' the Green." The company includes: Mr. Joseph Healy, Mr. Conn Mackey, Mr. Fred Williamson, Miss Amy Manfree, Miss Norah Desmond, Miss Desborough, Miss Maud Lillian, Miss Jeanette Lyons, Mrs. Chalmers Mackey, Mr. Chalmers Mackey, Mr. J. P. McBride, Mr. Charles M. Ulian, Mr. T. R. Nugent, Mr. Frank Dalton, Mr. Dennis Mackey, Mr. J. Neville. Touring-Manager, Mr. Charles M. Julian. Matinée, Saturday, at 2. Next week: "Rollicking Rory."

PALACE THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Richard M. Magrath.—The programme here includes Mr. Horace Hunter and Co., in "The Years Between"; the Norman and Leonard Trio, in musical sketch; Lyons and Cullum, lady and gentleman entertainers; Miss Violet Dene, comedienne and dancer; Mlle. Wardar, trapeze performer; Ken Kendrick, comedian and dancer; and the Palascope and Pathé Gazette.

COVENTRY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Mr. Geo. Dance's company is here this week in "Autumn Manœuvres." The company includes: Messrs. Huntley Wright, Jas. Gordon, Harry Johnstone, Oswald Clarke, Ivan Clark, John Valentine, George Wilson, R. Ronald, Sam Welsh, George Garnet, Hugh Allen, Edgar Roberts, Bertie Adams, Pat Berry, Miss May Rawlinson, Miss Violetta Bruce, Miss Ida Stockwell, Miss Claire Ross, Miss Winifred Burke, Miss Florence Fowler, and Miss Beatrice Willey.

HIPPODROME THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. T. Newsome; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. E. Wright.—This week: H. J. Corner and Leo Ward, Jack Warman, the Barnard Family, Marie Schulz, Fred Evans, Jessie Berg, Elsie Bower, and Idento Brothers.

CREWE.

NEW THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. G. Dudley Bennett; Resident-Manager, Mr. L. F. Testot.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Philip Michael Faraday presents "The Chocolate Soldier." The company includes: Mr. Charles R. Walenn, Miss May Clarke, Miss May Tomlinson, Mr. Jack Martin, Mr. Horace Dukes, Miss Winifred Etheridge, Mr. C. Stuart, Miss Sadie Edwards, Miss Lillie Bell, Miss O. Leighton, Mr. Cecil Barnes, Miss Evelyn Vernham, Mr. Frederick Leigh, Mr. Arthur Reynolds, and Miss Margaret Ismay. Touring-manager, Mr. Herbert Carter. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: The F. R. Benson's Shakespearean company.

CROOK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Tom Fyall.—This week: Mr. Gordon Gray produced "The Babes in the Wood." The company includes: Miss Millie Denham, Miss Connie Gordan, Messrs. Wallace and Lorne, Mr. John Armstrong, Mr. G. Armstrong, and Miss Ethel Spencer.

CROYDON.

GRAND THEATRE. — Managing - Directors, Messrs. Dick Adams and Ernest Archer; Musical-Director, Mr. H. E. J. Nation.—This week we have a welcome return visit of "The Quaker Girl," admirably rendered by Mr. George Dance's company, with a full and handsomely dressed chorus. Miss Sybil Coulthurst is a winsome and lovable Prudence, and holds the audience entranced: Miss Olga Moira is a genuine success in the rôle of Madam Blum: Miss Lily Aline sings and acts to perfection as Princess Mathilde; Miss Maud Denny is a pert Phœbe, and her dancing is heartily encored; Miss Elsie Wallace is a coquettish Daine; and useful services are rendered by Miss May Leslie as Mrs. Lukin and Miss Kathleen Haddon as Rachael Pym. Mr. Hugh Weybrace exactly fits the character of Captain Charteris; Mr. J. W. Hooper is commendable and quaint as Jeremiah; Mr. William Ogle is well placed as Monsieur Dunamel; Mr. Syril Dane's fine baritone voice wins much favour in the rôle of Prince Carlo; Mr. Gerald Wynne submits a capital character sketch of Monsieur Larose; Messrs. Arthur Mann, Arthur Hayter, and Henry Dench give due weight to the parts of William, Nathaniel Pym, and Jarge; and Mr. John T. McCallum's impersonation of Tony Chute would be hard to improve upon. Pretty embodiments of Toinette, Gaby, Cleo, Laine, and Louis are given by Misses Madge Robertson, Dolly Mercer, Jessie Allen, L. Anderson, and Gloria Egmont. A special dance by Mr. Vivian Trevelyn, Miss Lilian Leigh, and Miss M. Wallace is invigorating. Mr. A. Garfield Barratt is the able director of the augmented orchestra.

EMPIRE PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Managing-Director, Mr. Charles Gulliver; Manager, Mr. Eustace Jay; Musical-Director, Mr. Leslie Russell.—A palatable bill of fare is here this week. Herbert Darnley and strong company win golden opinions in quaint sketch, "The King They Kouldn't Kill"; Mabel Thorne is a smart singer of chorus songs; Bobby Dillon and Girls are seen to advantage in comedy skit, "Trippet, the Riding Master"; Harry Russon is a clever comedian; Harold Hillman is a first-class entertainer; Hetty King, male impersonator, is always well received; Elsie Ellis is a capital comedienne; Stalman and Russell are excellent in comedy sketch, "Borrowed Plumage"; the Melody Makers are good in phantom scena, "The Burglar's Dream"; and Bioscope pictures are up-to-date.

DARLINGTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bell; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom E. Nixon.—Third and last week of Mr. Harry Roxbury's pantomime "Jack and the Beanstalk."

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and Manager, Signor Pepi; Resident-Manager, Mr. Sydney B. Stringer.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. F. Leslie Moreton and Guyton Heath present "Miss Hook of Holland." The company includes: Mr. Fred J. Little, Mr. George F. Ide, Mr. Sen Holloway, Mr. James Davies, Mr. Oliver Comber, Mr. A. W. Bartlett, Mr. A. Budd, Mr. E. Roma, Mr. William Nixon, Mr. John Gerant, Miss May Moffat, Miss Peggy Lehay, Miss K. Goslett, Miss Dorothy Maude, Miss Helene Mohr, and Miss Dorothy Temple. Touring-Manager, Mr. George E. Taylor. Matinée, Wednesday, 2.30.

DARWEN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Darwen Theatre Royal Co.; General-Manager, Mr. Thomas Baker.—This week: Arthur Hart and Leslie Moreton's company in "The Arcadians." The company includes: Messrs. Alf Selby, Edward Jefferson, Walter Elagert, Lauri Aster, Hugh Lyndhurst, George Dennis, G. B. White, Claude Lawson, Jack Parson, Horace Nye, Leonard Slater, C. Warner; and Misses Mabel Funstan, Alma White, Ettie Critchley, Minnie Rayner, Doris Ludford, Gladys Gill, Jean Leslie, Isabel Butler, Lala Glyn, Zezia Barr, and B. Brame. Orchestra under the direction of Mr. W. D. J. Damant. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

PUBLIC HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Riding, Hardcastle, and Rawlinson; Manager, Mr. J. D. Rawlinson.—This week (twice nightly): Mora and Lola, musical eccentrics; J. J. Holden, tenor vocalist; and pictures.

ALBERT HALL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Bradley and Hindle; Manager, Mr. J. Morris.—This week (twice nightly): The Gentrys, in sketch, "Weary Waffes, M.D."; Verdi, concertina soloist; and pictures.

DENTON.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. Ward.—This week (once nightly, and matinée Saturday): Mr. Nelson Barrett's company in "Cinderella," including Misses May and Ivy Royal, Vea Sivart, Eva Travis, Ivy Macfarlane, McEvoy, Hanson, Hopkins, Wood, Bett, and Taylor; Messrs. Byron, Mackenzie, Sykes, Maccabe, Hunt, Edwards, Seymour, Poynton, and Master Tom Walsh. Specialities: La Zenith, Five Butterfly Dancers, Travis and Mac, Hunt and Edwards, Miss Ivy Macfarlane, male impersonator; and Master Tommy Walsh, boy vocalist.

DERBY.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Chas. Denley; Assistant-Manager, Mr. J. B. Torr.—Messrs. M. Montgomery and E. C. Jazon's pantomime, "The Babes in the Wood," is to conclude this Saturday night, after a most successful run. Friday night was a special gala night for the benefit of Miss Maud Beaumont (Robin Hood) and Miss Ruby Emmerson (Maid Marion).

PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. W. Moyes; Assistant-Manager, Mr. A. J. Knight.—This week: Miss Edith Findlay and company in "A Fight in the Dark"; Billy Marsden, the musical Lancashire lad; Little Sunbeam, comedienne and dancer; Williams and Hayes, vocal comedy act; and pictures.

VICTORIA ELECTRIC THEATRE.—This week: Slippere, blind entertainer; Butt and Ward, speciality duettists; and pictures.

DEVONPORT.

HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. G. E. Prance; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Wm. Baldwin.—This week (twice nightly): The Eight American Rag-timers; Henry D. Adams, juggler; Pauline Du Barrie, male impersonator; Briff, Braff and Broff, comedy tumblers; McConnell Trio, singing and comedy sketch artistes; Eily Adair, comedienne and dancer; Walter Bird's West-End company in "Her Husband."

DEWSBURY.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. Herbert Asquith.—This week (once nightly): Mr. D. Forbes Russell presents "The Prisoner of Zenda." The company includes: Fred D. Daviss, Arthur Gibbons, J. Warriss Lindon, Seaton Dane, Edmund Blake, Lionel Yaldwyn, Claud Allister, Gerald Alexander, Harold Taylor, J. Trere Vernon, George Wyley, Reginald Ives, Philip Rolfe, Walter Branley, Winifred Gamble, Kitty Crichton, Dorothy Overend. Touring-Manager, Mr. Reginald Faber. Next week: "The Queen Mother."

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. J. Jackett; General-Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler; Musical-Director, Mr. E. G. Summerfield.—This week (twice nightly): Patsy and Sally, chimpanzees; Arnold and Baxter, in vocal scena; Eddy and Larry Lyle, comedians; Phil Dooley, whistler and dancer; Alan Shaw, comedian; Three Its, vocalists and dancers; Four Powers; pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Assistant-Manager, Mr. E. Shepherd; General-Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler.—This week (twice nightly): Tom Cullen, the Irish nightingale; pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, at 2.45.

DONCASTER.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessees, The Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. North; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. Wood; Musical-Director, Mr. Charlton T. Waddington.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Geo. Brydon Phillips' pantomime. "Puss in Boots." The company includes: Mr. Harry Maxam, Mr. Jack Lennol, Mr. Clive Watts, Mr. John Roker, Messrs. Dennis and Morris, Mr. W. Olsen, Miss Gladys Erskine, Miss Nan Nelbur, Miss Grace Ingram, Miss Marie Beaufort, Mr. D. Powell, Mr. W. Sidney, Miss Hazel Glade, the Three Dardinis; supported by a powerful chorus. Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Clark. Orchestra under the leadership of Mr. Moritz Bamberger. Next week: Miss Glossop-Harris and Mr. Frank Cellier's company in répertoire of Shakespearean plays.

PALACE.—Proprietors, The Palace Theatre (Doncaster), Ltd.; Manager, Mr. J. W. North; Acting-Manager, Mr. C. H. Bell; Musical-Director, Mr. Felix Burns.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. P. T. Selbit's latest mystery, Shadow People; Vyo and Clar, Vyo, the brilliant violinist, introducing Trumpeter Clar; Little Violette, male impersonator and dancer; Gilbert Girard, animal and instrumental mimic; J. W. Rowley, pantomime comedian; Arthur Royd, tenor; Charles Kitts and Rhoda Windrum, in "Our Baby"; and pictures.

DOVER.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. S. W. Winter; Manager, Mr. E. W. Holford; Musical-Conductor, Mr. C. C. Hill.—Twice nightly during the week: "The Torch," played by Messrs. H. Wolfgang, T. Conover, A. Mason, A. Travers, and Mrs. H. Wolfgang; Billy Farrell, comedian; Les Marsumas, in comedy skit "The Navvy's Rest"; the Three Sisters Rizarelis, in triple trapeze act; Sam Clark and Sam Wallace, comedians; the Recar, Chinese acrobatic scena; Harry Massy, comedian; and pictures.

KING'S HALL.—Managing-Director, Mr. H. R. Geddes.—This week (twice nightly): James Stewart, the tramp pianist; Mlle. da Lila, in a series of living transformations; Randolph King, the unique unit, in "The Village Bazaar."

DUBLIN.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Chas. Hyland.—"Cinderella," now in her third week, continues to draw crowded houses nightly. All the artistes seem thoroughly at home in their parts, with the result that there is not a dull moment from the rise to the fall of the curtain. Miss Barbara Babington as the Prince has endeared herself to all, and her reception nightly is one to make any artiste feel proud. Miss Katie Marsh is a delightful Dandini, and her "Mr. Cupid" number is encored nightly. Messrs. Adeson and Reginald Switz as the wife and Baron create much hilarity, a remark that also applies to Miss Dolly Harmer and Miss Heron-Brown as the Ugly Sisters. The former's song, "Mary," is one of the hits of the pantomime. The scenery and ballets are greatly admired, and the whole production reflects the greatest credit on the producer, Mr. Harrison.

THEATRE ROYAL AND HIPPODROME.—Manager, Mr. Chas. Terry.—The Quinlan Opera season is fast coming to a close, but, judging by the crowded houses nightly, their popularity seems to be on the increase. On Monday night "La Traviata" was produced, and a packed house assembled to greet Miss Evelyn Parnell (who had come all the way from Milan to play Violetta). This was her first appearance in Ireland, and her reception at the close was one long to be remembered. She was certainly a phenomenal success. Mr. Wm. Dever was also in good voice as Père Germont, and Mr. Spencer Thomas sang the music of Alfred with exquisite taste and expression. During the week some magnificent performances of the masters' works have been given, notably "Lohengrin," wherein Miss Agnes Nicholls and Mr. John Coates are seen at their best. We have also been treated to "The Marriage of Figaro," "Rigoletto," and "The Girl of the Golden West." On Wednesday next a grand concert will be held, in which the orchestra and all the principal artistes will participate.

QUEEN'S ROYAL THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Baynton.—Judging by the box-office, "Mother Goose" seems to be the most popular pantomime seen here for many years, and although in its fourth week the order nightly is "House full." All the artistes are at their best, and Gladys Mavius as principal boy sings and dances in brilliant style; Ray and Zack have become immensely popular; also Miss Florrie Sweetman, who makes the most of her small part. The Bros. Shanks are a capital duo of comedians, their animal impersonations causing roars of laughter. Robb Wilton as the Dame is always in the picture, whilst Miss Avey looks decidedly pretty as the heroine. Great credit is due to the producer, Mr. Smith, who should feel highly satisfied that the pantomime under his able managership has been such a pronounced success.

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. George Marsh.—The Rawsons as vocalists and pianists delight the audience with a most artistic performance; Edwards and Yates appear in a comedy sketch, in which the humour concerns the "delightful" agonies of the dentist's chair; some clever tumbling is introduced by the Lizette Trio of acrobats; Bert Rose has a good voice, which he uses excellently; Frances Kinders dances in a delightful and refreshing style; Rose Gower sings with great taste, and her numbers are highly appreciated. Mosford and Hardene scored with their unique act; and Eva La Claire (comedienne) has some good songs.

TIVOLI THEATRE OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. Chas. M. Jones; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Murphy.—The Four Heidelbergs present a delightful musical mélange which gains unstinted applause; A. D. Robbins presents his sensational cycling act, one of the most wonderful seen here for many years; his "bucking bicycle" and some of the amateur attempts to ride it cause roars of laughter; Gicardo and Dalkeith, sketchers and patterers, are most entertaining in their respective rôles; Rell and Butt score heavily as comedians; and, with Doris Melrose (comedienne), Rivers and Sullivan (comedians and dancers), Walter Wade (the Yorkshire Scot) make up a capital bill.

WORLD'S FAIR OF VARIETIES.—Manager, Mr. R. J. Goldston; Musical-Director, Mr. Sanderson Smith.—This week (twice nightly): Esta Esmond, comedienne and dancer; Tom Gregory, comedian and dancer; Alwyn, ventriloquist; pictures.

BODEGA. — Commercial-buildings, Dame-street; Wines, Spirits, Cigars, &c.; Restaurant, Luncheons, Sandwich Bar; Theatrical papers.

DUDLEY.

OPERA HOUSE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Dudley Opera House Co., Ltd.; Manager and Secretary, Mr. Ernest Davies.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Dance presents "The Quaker Girl." The company includes: Mr. Jack Gray, Mr. Ken Worth, Mr. Robert Dunn, Mr. Charles Cautley, Mr. Monti Macdonald, Mr. James Hughes, Mr. Nelson White, Mr. R. Gladstone, Mr. Louis Wigley, Miss Rita Everard, Miss Violet Gower, Miss Violet Willard, Miss Elsie Skillings, Miss Doris Gray, Miss Rosalie Payne, Miss Rene Buckingham, Miss Ruby Bradfield, Miss Blanche Travis, Miss Trixie Andrew, Miss Nellie Hay, and Miss Elfie Vincent. Manager, Mr. W. L. Clement. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: "Our Miss Gibbs."

DUNDEE.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Lessees, Gaiety Theatre (Dundee), Ltd.; Licensee and Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Cavanah, C.A.; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Murphy.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. and Mrs. Harry Lyndon's company presents "The Pet of the Ranch," by Mrs. F. G. Kimberley. The company includes: Mr. Algernon J. Hicks, Mr. Geo. Flood, Mr. Edgar Morgan, Mr. C. D. Pitt, Mr. Harry Lyndon, Master Harold Bell, Mr. Frank Guest, Mr. W. Noble, Little Cayuse, Lone Star, Miss Maudie Vincent, Miss Grace Jones, Miss Edie Macklin, and Miss Iza Lyndon.

KING'S THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Lessees, Dundee Theatres, Ltd.; Licensee and Manager, Mr. S. McIntosh; Musical-Director, Mr. E. B. Rogers.—This week (twice nightly): Tom Jack, "the ice king"; J. A. Wilson, assisted by his dog Private Towser; Gladys Hooley, in scena, "Fiddle and I"; Radford and Valentine, juggling jesters; Leslie Brothers, in "Music Mad"; Walker and Bunting, in musical comedy, "In the Hielan's"; Edith England, contralto vocalist; Caryl Wilbur and company in sketch, "61, Prospect Street"; and the Kingscope.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessees, B.B. Pictures, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. J. J. Bennell; District- and Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn.—This week (twice nightly): First appearance in Great Britain of Prince Asadang and company in illusionist act; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 3.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessees, B.B. Pictures, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. J. J. Bennell; District-Manager, Mr. Tom Lunn; Acting-Manager, Mr. R. W. Austin; Musical-Directress, Mrs. Currie.—This week (twice nightly): George Arnott, eccentric comedian; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 3.

KINNAIRD HALL.—This week (once nightly): Dr. Walford Bodie, assisted by La Belle Electra; Wee Mona Burns, comedienne; Stave, "the musical cannibal," in musical speciality act; Dolly Robson, the bell-voiced girl; Ernst, the latest violin prodigy; Albert E. Bodie, in his illusionary wonders; Evelyn De-Lara, high-class soprano; and Dr. Bodie's ventriloquial sketch, "The Laird's Highland Party." Touring manager, Mr. Wm. Skene Henry; Musical-Conductress, Mlle. D. Lenton. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.30.

PAVILION PICTURE AND VARIETY PALACE.—Proprietors, Messrs. R. and J. Pennycook; Manager, Mr. J. Pennycook; Musical-Director Mr. James Walton. — This week (twice nightly): Moore and Moore, harmonising duettists and simultaneous dancers; Cosgrove and Donlon, in rag-time singing and dancing; Jesmond Dean, refined light comedian; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 3.

TIVOLI THEATRE. — Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Edward and McIntosh; Musical-Director, Mr. Wm. Blyth.—This week (twice nightly): Walter Narcelle, comedy conjurer and illusionist; Chris O'Brien, "the strolling player"; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 3.

NEW HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. A. E. Binnall; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred Ruse.—This week (twice nightly): O'Conner and Traynor, in boxing act; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 3.

WEST END CINEMA.—Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Alex. Mitchell; Musical-Directress, Miss S. Alexander.—This week (twice nightly): Betty Burton, comedienne and rag-time singer and dancer; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 3.

CITY PICTUREDROME.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. George Griffon; Musical-Director, Mr. Robert Cameron.—This week (twice nightly): Pantomime by local children; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 3.

DUNFERMLINE.

NEW OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Henry Hare.—Mr. George Dance's company in opera, "The Chocolate Soldier," appeared here on Monday night. The company includes: Mr. Villiers Arnold, Miss Alice Coverick, Miss Florence Hylton, Miss Maggie Gorman, Mr. Henry Crosse, Mr. Charles Sims, Mr. Walter Williams, Mr. Harry Barnette, and Miss Carrie Scott. "Bunty Pulls the Strings" is billed for the last three nights of the week.

EASTBOURNE.

DEVONSHIRE PARK THEATRE.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. Murray King and Clark; Musical-Director, Mr. Wilson B. Dibble.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Dance's company in "The Sunshine Girl." The company includes: Miss Mysie Devine, Miss Jennie Richards, Mr. Jack Morrison, and Mr. Theodore Leonard.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Sidney W. Winter; General-Manager, Mr. H. Raymond; Musical-Director, Mr. W. H. Ash.—This week (twice nightly): The Imperial Cycling Troupe (five in number); the Nicoletos Trio, fantastic equilibrists, in their aeroplane; the Four Durhams, in musical act; Miss Lola Verreker, supported by Messrs. Lennard and M'Jervoise, in musical comedy, "A Cider to Decide 'Er"; Miss Nesta Verney, male impersonator; Mr. Ernest Heathcote, comedian; Mr. Sam Lewis, Hebrew comedian; and pictures.

PIER PAVILION.—Manager, Mr. George Hayes; Musical-Director, Mr. E. W. Peilgen.—This week (once nightly): Mr. C. Adolf Seebold's pantomime company, in "Little Red Riding Hood." The company includes: Miss Gracie Rosslyn, Miss Rosa Charles, Miss Vesta Brownie, Mr. Fred Walker, Mr. Harry Walshe, Messrs. George Farnley and Sam Ferris, and Mr. Dan Griffiths; specialities include Victor's Six Fireflys, singers and dancers; the Three Comedy Chanters, harmonising trio; Nelson and Broughton, duettists. Next week: Mr. Frederick Melville's company, in "The Monk and the Woman."

DEVONSHIRE PARK, FLORAL HALL.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. Edgar Allen Brown.—Skating on inner maple rink every afternoon and Monday and Wednesday evenings, with accompanying music; every afternoon and evening, cinematograph exhibitions in the Pavilion; on Saturday evening, a lecture by Mr. Ellis Ashmead Bartlett in an illustrated lecture, "The Balkan War as I Saw It."

ECCLES.

CROWN THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert Rogers; Musical-Director, Mr. W. C. Pike.—This week (twice nightly): Jack Cavalli, ventriloquist; the Three Stork Brothers, in gymnastic act; and pictures.

EDINBURGH.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. W. Wyndham and Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Darlison; Musical-Director, Mr. E. J. Rogers.—Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company remains here for another week with "Princess Caprice," which is being played to crowded houses.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. F. F. Wyndham and Mr. Geo. T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Whitehead; Musical-Director, Mr. E. J. Rogers.—The Royal pantomime, "Sinbad," seems to increase in popularity as the run lengthens, and large audiences have been visiting the house, both at the evening and afternoon performances.

KING'S THEATRE. — Proprietors, Edinburgh Construction Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. D. L. Howat; Musical-Director, Mr. A. Douglas Wilcox.—"Dick Whittington," the King's pantomime, has been highly successful, and crowded holiday audiences have testified their approval of the efforts of the clever company engaged.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. T. Aynsley Cook; Musical-Director, Mr. James Howarth.—The return to a variety programme at the Empire has drawn overflowing audiences. A special attraction are the American Rag-time Octette, a party of performers whose vigour and excellence of tone in the rendering of their particular selections give unqualified pleasure. The singers are loudly recalled. Nelson Jackson's humour is clear and pointed, and whether he sings to his own accompaniment at the piano, or relates a merry story, he is always a clever, unobtrusive artiste; the Quigley Brothers are capital Irish comedians, and they dance well; Mr. Will Van Allen astonishes his audience by his mastery of many instruments, and introduces a good deal of fun into his turn; Wood, Wells, and Wilkins, in a laughable sketch, "The Piano Tuner," reveal the possession of admirable voices, and are heartily applauded; and the Brothers Miller are mirth-provoking gymnasts, their burlesque wrestling sketch containing really droll business; Mr. Geo. Rae proves a success in his Scottish comedy performance; Miss Isa Wise is an attractive comedienne; and Little Ena Dayne is an intelligent, interesting child entertainer of undoubted promise.

MOSS' CARNIVAL.—The management of the big show at the Waverley Market has, as is customary in the closing week, added to the attractiveness of the programme by the engagement of various athletes of Continental reputation. In the list are included Raoul de Rouen (French); Gaumont and Soyer (Belgium); Shackmann (German); Van Rothen (Holland); and Noel (Swiss), all wrestlers who have been giving exciting exhibitions during the week. The variety part of the entertainment comprises a number of excellent turns. Ferry, "The Human Frog," presents a clever act, in which, made up as a gigantic amphibian, he goes through a series of remarkable contortions; Louis Guertin, an American athlete, provides a smart jumping performance; Annetta and Lillian give a daring high-bar act; Lane and O'Donnell are two humorous comedy acrobats, whose work is dexterous and truly funny; the Brothers Carpattie are agile gymnasts; and others who contribute to a splendid entertainment are the Eight Rays, a troupe of skating girls; the Bellclair Brothers, in feats of strength; and Miss Shanara, with her Thibet mountain goats.

EXETER.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Exeter Theatre Co., Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford.—This week (once nightly): "Goody Two Shoes." The company includes: Mr. Fred Fowler, Miss Dolly Vardon, Mr. Paddy Dene, Mr. Eric Dale, Mr. Jamie Dallas, Miss Grace Unwin, Miss Lence Lorelle, Mr. Jimmy Russell, Miss Lilian Saunders, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford, Miss Hetty King, Miss Lily O'Sullivan, Miss Kathleen Collings, Miss Hetty Farrell, Miss Desme Lorelle, Miss Gladys Grafton, Miss Winifred Foster, Miss Ethel Langstone, Miss Cissie Thompson. Touring-Manager, Mr. Percy M. Dunsford. Matinée, Tuesday and Friday, at 2 p.m.

FALKIRK.

GRAND THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. R. C. Buchanan; Resident-Manager, Mr. Horace W. Ebbutt.—This week: "Red Riding Hood." The company includes: Miss Madge Beresford, Miss Gwen Zalaska, the Brooklands Girls, the Eight Rubies, Mr. Fred Lincoln, and Mr. Will Davidson.

ELECTRIC THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. J. E. Atkinson.—This week: The Three Lenhards, in clever playlet, "The Burglar's Surprise"; Danas, in comedy sketch; Ben Nevis and Little Leno, "the long and short of it"; Rubber and assistant, in comedy and pictures.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. E. Atkinson; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. E. Cooper.—This week: Lily and Harry Zanoni, in juggling scena; the Five Syrags, in absurdity. "The Hilarious Scholars"; Archie O'Neil, vocalist and one-legged rag-time dancer; Belton and Osborne, comedians; and pictures.

FERNDALE.

NEW WORKMEN'S HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. David Williams.—This week (once nightly): Leoni Clarke, the cat king; Marquiz De Gonza Trio, in comedy juggling scena; and pictures. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday.

FOLKESTONE.

PLEASURE GARDENS THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. H. B. Hampton; Musical-Director, Mr. George Cooper.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Dance presents "Get-Rich-Quick Wallingford." The company includes: Mr. Julian Royce, Mr. Herbert Vyvyan, Mr. Cecil Cameron, Mr. Laurence Caird, Mr. J. R. Cruford, Mr. Frank Colling, Mr. Eldrett Gulson, Mr. Douglas Gordon, Mr. R. A. Brandon, Mr. Forrester Harvey, Mr. Robert Ayrton, Mr. Hale Hamilton, Mr. C. Denier Warren, Mr. Frank Stanmore, Mr. Bryan G. Powley, Miss Mary Brough, Miss Elsie Wood, Miss May Leslie Stuart, Miss Simeta Marsden, Miss Rita Carr, and Miss Madge Fabian. Touring-Manager, Mr. Frank Collins. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30. Next week: "Sinbad the Sailor."

GATESHEAD.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Newcastle and Gateshead Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. C. Howitt.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. G. A. Street presents "The Cattle Thief." Touring-Manager, Mr. J. Stanley. The company includes: Mr. Lene Mitchell, Mr. Wallie Bishop, Mr. Frank Orchard, Mr. Lesie M. Mitchell, Mr. R. S. Norton, Mr. Harry Leslie, Mr. Bert Paine, Mr. Fk. Drury, Mr. Frank West, Mr. Nat Palmer, Mr. Saunders, Mr. J. Webb, Mr. W. Plant, Mr. W. Henry, Mr. W. Hicks, Mr. S. Waters, Miss Beatrice Western, Miss Mabel Norrie, Miss Kathleen Russel, Miss Amy Ellis. Next week: "Jack and the Beanstalk."

KING'S THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. R. F. Douthwaite; Acting-Manager, Mr. M. S. Hammond.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. and Mrs. B. Shinton present "An Officer of the King." The company includes: Mr. John B. Shinton, Mr. Edward Lowrie, Mr. St. George Frere, Mr. Fred White, Mr. Lambert Williams, Mr. Ernest Regent, Mr. Fred H. Patterson, Mr. Bert Atherton, Mr. Langdon Goulding, Miss Isabel Hunt, Little Isabella Sanderson, Miss Edith Watkins, Miss Bessie Bedwell, Miss Ada M. Ryder.

GLASGOW.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. Hugh Macfarlane; Musical-Director, Mr. T. M. Tunbridge.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Edwardes' production, "The Dancing Mistress." Touring-Manager, Mr. Kay Draco. The company includes: Messrs. Edward D'Arcy, Harold D. Pearce, David Miller, Guy Le Feuvre, and W. Louis Bradfield, and Misses Luna Love, Rita Presano, Daphne Glennei, Ada Palmer, and Dora Fraser. Matinée, Saturday, 2.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Howard and Wyndham, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry F. Ashton.—This week (once nightly): "The House that Jack Built." The company includes: Miss Gwladys Soman, Mr. Joe Nightingale, Mr. Leonard Barry, Miss Daisy Yates, Miss Ida Valli, Mr. Billy Merson, Mr. Fred Barnes, Miss Winnie Browne, Mr. Reginald Crompton, Miss Ivey Latimer, Mr. W. Fullbrook, Mr. Lloyd-Mackenzie, Mr. Sydney Black, and Miss Blanche Leiper. Matinées, Wednesdays and Saturdays, 2.

ROYALTY.—Kinemacolor films.

ROYAL PRINCESS'S.—Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; Acting-Manager, Mr. Hugh Murdoch; Musical-Director, Mr. Henri Vollmer.—"Goody Two Shoes" continues on her triumphal way here, and at matinées and evening performances delighted audiences revel in the plethora of fun put before them. Mr. Dan Whitley as the Baron's son is the principal culprit in the fun making; and Messrs. Damerell and Rutland ably second his efforts. Mr. Billy Walters as the Scotch postman is also responsible for many hearty laughs. Miss Kitty Dale as principal boy has made a big success, and no less prominent is Miss Jenny Hartley as Goody Two Shoes. The Sisters Emson are also great favourites as second boy and girl. Mr. Harry Emerie as the Unknown has a part with lots of fine opportunities, none of which he misses. Messrs

win, to perfection. All the other parts are in good hands.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. Rhodes Parry; Musical-Director, Mr. Wm. B. Moore.—The bill is headed by Gene Greene, designated the "Monarch of Rag-time," who sings eight songs to the entire satisfaction of the audience. He is ably assisted by Charles Straight at the piano. Weston and Lynch, American comedy duo, are clever in sketch entitled "The Fainting Girl"; and the performance submitted by Roland Bros. is far above the average. Capt. Woodward's Sea Lions and Seals always command admiration; and a musical speciality of a high order is given by Mildred Longley and Cecilia Inger; while the barrell-jumping of Aldon and Loupe is marvellous. The other members of the company include Huley and Bent, comedy artistes; Wullie Walker, Scotch comedian; and the American bioscope is up to date.

PAVILION, LTD.—Manager, Mr. Evan Good; Musical-Director, Mr. R. F. Steele.—Frances Letty, character comedienne and dancer, gives three turns in her own inimitable style in a gorgeous scena, entitled "The Grandee's Pavilion." She was well received by crowded houses. The eight Quaker Girls give a musical act, combining instrumental and vocal selections, each performer being an artiste in her own line. Clara Coverdale's Nine Dainty Dots in their scena, "The Gypsies' Revels," prove what can be done with juveniles by careful training, and their singing and dancing was well received. A smart and humorous turn is given by Hunter and Bob in a pantomimical comedy act, many of the items being quite new; Jennie Alexander submits some clever impersonations under the title of "Cosmopolitan Lovers"; Beaty and Blanche sing duets sweetly; and other artistes in the programme are Inez and Pim, gymnasts; and Charlie Robinson, light comedy vocalist.

OLYMPIA.—Lessees and Managers, Messrs. de Frece and Edelsten, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. John M'Millan; Musical-Director, Mr. Len Holmes.—This week the Williams' pantomime, "Babes in the Wood," is filling this popular east-end house to overflowing. Miss Elaine Cliff as the Fairy Starlight and Mr. P. S. Gilbert as Herne the Hunter contribute some capital songs. Miss Louie Edmonds is a bright and attractive Robin Hood, and as Maid Marion Miss Dorothy La Race soon establishes herself a favourite. The Babes are played by two clever youngsters, Little Alec and Wee Peggy, who do wonderfully well. Miss Nellie Gorin as Will Scarlet and Miss Dorothy May as Dolly Vardon ably add their quota to the general success. In the comedy element Mr. Bob Stephenson as the Baron, Miss Daisy Clifford as the Baroness, Mr. G. Hyland as Helen M'Mutchkin, Mr. Erchie Glen as Pimperstrop, and Messrs. Tom Read and Jack McKinley as two detectives provide lots of fun; while Sol and Joel, the Hebrew Robbers, are prolific in devising funny business in every scene. The chorus and dancers are bright and animated throughout.

SAVOY, LTD.—Manager, Mr. H. Godwin.—The Williams' pantomime, "Dick Whittington," is still running merrily here. It is one of the late Fred Locke's best efforts, and bristles with his happy humour. On the occasion of our visit Miss Kathleen Grey, the principal boy, was indisposed; Miss Kathleen Emmett deputised, and achieved a great success. Sam Thomson as Idle Jack is the life and soul of the production, his quaint methods and witty gagging creating continuous laughter. Miss Vi Davis makes a very charming Alice, and Harry Farrow is excellent as the Dame. The remainder of the cast is in the hands of capable artistes.

STAR, PARTICK.—Proprietors, Star Animated Picture and Vaudeville Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Chandos.—Murphy and Mack are the pick of the bill, and their sketch, "The Major's Reflection," causes laughter from start to finish; Marion James and Fred Chester have a merry comedy act; the Three Safes give a masterly display of gymnastics; and the pictures are of the usual excellence.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. J. Crane.—The pantomime, "Mother Hubbard and Good Two Shoes," is proving highly popular here, and getting a goodly share of public patronage. The title parts are taken by Mr. Harry Conlin and Miss Daisy Dormer, both of whom are warm favourites in Glasgow; Miss Mabel Medrow is principal boy, and is in all respects worthy of the position; Mr. Jay Laurier makes a very decided hit as the Cobbler; and a deal of funny business is contributed by Mr. George Conquest, junr., as the Dog; Mr. Charles Harvey as the Squire, and the Brothers Griffiths as Servants; Misses Rosie Chandler and Dollie Payne make a smart second girl and boy; Miss Gwennie Harcourt's Mary is quite a character study; and two nimble Fairies are seen in Misses Leah Hauman and Madge Diston.

HENGLER'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Albert Hengler; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Milne; Musical-Director, Mr. Harry Wood.—This week "In the Balkans" is still proving a big draw, and large audiences have been the rule. Mr. Doodles as the Scotch war correspondent is very amusing; the Corradinis give an excellent equestrian act with horse, elephant, two zebras, and two Great Danes; the Herbert Cooke Trio are clever; and the White Rider is novel and entertaining; the Three Wolkens, gymnasts; George Madigan's dogs, the Breens, jugglers; and Doodles and Pimple supply amusing sallies.

PRINGLE'S, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Ralph Pringle; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Paulton; Musical-Director, Mr. William Milne.—The Musical Bentleys, clever musicians, are praiseworthy; the Two Styles, dancers and patterers, are amusing; and the pictures are entertaining.

PALACE. — Proprietor, Mr. Rich Waldon; General-Manager, Mr. Harry M'Kelvie; Musical-Director, Mr. Arthur Fellowes.—Austin Rudd, an old favourite, pleases in all his latest successes, including "Keep on licking 'em." A capital turn is given by the Gascoignes, patter comedians and comedy jugglers. The Three Krakes are in an acrobatic comedy act, entitled. "The Electric Tram Conductor." Dan Fraser is a Scotch comedian who takes well, as does also Arthur Slater, the whistling man in white. The remaining artistes are: The Eight Boston Boys and Girls, in their refined singing and dancing act; Simple Smart, the acrobatic sportsman; Gulliver, a very clever ventriloquist; and Signor Torti, the great Italian tenor vocalist. Harry Fields, comedian, did not appear on Monday night.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur E. Barnes; Musical-Director, Mr. J. H. Clucas.—Pantomime still holds the boards here, and John Tiller's successful production is proving exceedingly popular. Since the inaugural performance, "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves" has been running with the utmost smoothness, and the artistes have every reason to congratulate themselves on the result. Jack Pleasants and Wee Georgie Wood, of course, have a large say in the success, and are ably supported by the other principals, notably Nelly Rodney, Jessie Gerrard, Edith Jeffries, and Taggart Craughan. Excellent singing and dancing and beautiful dresses are striking features of the production.

ALHAMBRA, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Butt; Manager, Mr. Edward Foster; Musical-Director, Mr. Howard Croft.—Miss Marie Studholme tops the bill here, and is well suited in a comedy sketch, "Her Ladyship," written by Harry Grattan. In this she has excellent scope for her comedy talents, and is well supported by Miss Tiny Grattan as a comic slavey, and by Messrs. Cecil Burt and Walter Pearce. The Scottish Repertory Theatre Company appear in a new and powerful little play entitled, "Womankind," which is noticed in another column. An American musical turn, Conrad and Whillens, make a great hit with a rag-time act, introducing singing and violin and piano items. Wilson Hallett's imitations of little children are as faithful and as amusing as ever. Tottles contributes a comedy act which is both varied and original, and though last on the bill he held his audience wonderfully. Potter, the American Scot, gives a number of clever impersonations. Sisters Jerome sing and dance well; Two Butterflies contribute a graceful acrobatic act; and the Kenneth Lyle Quartette, in vocal and instrumental selections, were heartily appreciated.

LYCEUM, GOVAN, LTD. — Resident-Manager, Mr. J. H. Oakden; Musical-Director, Mr. Thos Walker.—The Eight Rag-time Darkies introduce something novel in the way of rag-time song and dance numbers. Kate Butler had a flattering reception. Jean Campbell, favourite contralto, was well received in a pleasing vocal number, and Les Zelovas, in a daring equilibrist act, meet with great acceptance. Grace Lester and Co., in a dramatic episode entitled "A Ruined Life," create an impression. In the rôle of "Sal," Miss Lester displays admirable histrionic ability, of which clear articulation and charming deportment are features. She is ably supported by Mr. Jackson Hayes as John Bellingham, Mr. A. Ackerman as Dick Hastings, and Miss Juliet Mathieson as Kitty Bellingham. Spry and Monti keep the house in roars of laughter in their comedy act, "The Erratic Song Writer." The Three Lascelles, in a musical comedy absurdity, "The Aviators," create great merriment, their harmonising vocal items being heartily received.

PANOPTICON.—Sole Proprietor and Director, Mr. A. E. Pickard; General-Manager, Mr. W. Sinclair.—This week (four performances daily): Fanning's Marionettes; Kitty Earle, soprano; Madge Montgomery, comedienne and dancer; Jack Robey, a lad with the rag-time; the Star Trio, in "Ginger"; and pictures.

IBROX PICTURE PALACE.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Sowerby.—This week (once nightly): Jennie Foster, comedienne; the Taylor Trio, coloured artistes; Renot, the newsboy mimic; and pictures. Children's matinée, Saturday, 3.

CASINO.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. A. E. Pickard; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. G. Glenroy.—This week (twice nightly): Dave Summerhill, comedian; the Lorettes, in trapeze act; Leoville, wire walker; Layne and Valroy, in "Married Life"; and pictures.

HENGLER'S.—"The Balkans" (water spectacle), with circus and variety items.

GLOSSOP.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Sydney Spenser; Acting-Manager and Musical-Director, Mr. W. E. Cottrill.—This week: Mr. W. V. Garrod presents twice nightly, "A Wife for a Day." The company includes: Mr. Herbert Flanders, Mr. W. V. Garrod, Mr. Theo. Balfour, Mr. T. Arthur Plummer, Mr. J. Sutton Pateman, Mr. Walter Vincent, Mr. Chas. Brooks, Mr. H. Fredericks, Mr. Lyn Lester, Mr. O. Monkhouse, Mr. M. Lewis, Miss Bertha Kingston, Miss Alice Inman, Miss Alice Clarke, and Miss Gladys Morris.

GLOUCESTER.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. Will Smithson; Resident-Manager, Mr. R. T. Rea; Musical-Director, Mr. Wilfred Knowles.—This week (once nightly): Mr. A. E. Smith presents "Jack and the Beanstalk." The company includes: Miss Damaris Du Pere, Miss Annie Hill, Miss Florence Herbert, Miss Enid D'Alroy, Miss Vera Leslie, Miss Mollie St. Clair, Miss Dora Manners, Miss Betty Beryl, Miss Katrina Marche, the Somber Sisters, Miss Eslie Verrier, Miss Eva Linacre, Mr. Arthur Long, Miss Alice Gresham, Miss Millie Watson, Miss May Bevan, Miss May Skidmore, Miss Dollie St. Clair, Mr. Harry Kirk, Mr. Will Skidmore, the Brothers Hinson, Mr. Ben Lambe, and Mr. Fred Kirk. Touring-manager, Mr. A. E. Smith. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: "Are You a Mason?"

KING'S HALL. — Lessees, Messrs. Poole's Theatres, Ltd.—This week: Little Nap, the wonder chimpanzee; Wright and Aitken and company, in "The Battle of Life"; and Carl Osmonde, in one-man duet.

GRANTHAM.

EMPIRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. J. A. Campbell; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. Marshall; Musical-Director, Mr. Gilbert Graham.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Harry Joseph presents "Dick Whittington." The company includes: Miss Fifi Gordon, Miss Alma Lorene, Miss Rita Royne, Miss Rosie Dent, Miss Edie Clark, Miss Jennie Wray, Mr. Ted E. Rose, Mr. Red. Heaton, Miss Nellie Merrie, Mr. Will Dale, Miss Maie Forest, Miss Winnie Hall, Miss Mable Wilde, Miss Pauline Cornish, Miss Ada Walker, Miss Toots Desmond, Mr. L. Hampton, Mr. Will Elton, Mr. Bert Elton, Mr. Joe Hayman, Mr. Jack Houten, Mr. Harry Joseph, Mr. Ern. Moore, Miss Rose Sayers, Miss Tess Jones, Miss Floss Bankes, Miss Annie Rounds, and Miss Rene Rossi. Matinée, Saturday, at 2. Next week: "The Apple of Eden."

GRAVESEND.

GRAND THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Collins; Manager, Mr. Charles G. Rembges. — This week (twice nightly): Messrs. A. and H. Da Lila present "The Runaways"; Nat Travers, coster comedian; Godfrey Kneller, in musical act; King and King, comedienne and dancer; Harry Cotton, comedian; the Vinettos, in comedy juggling act; Eunice Law, in speciality act; pictures.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. H. Nightingale; Acting-Manager, Mr. Archie Walford.—This week (once nightly): Mark Melford, in "My Wife Won't Let Me"; Belle and Dare, comedy couple; Miss de la Grange, comedienne and dancer; sketch, "A Breach of Promise Case"; Will Burton, comedian; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30.

GREENOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietor and Managers, Messrs. A. B. and J. J. Wright.—"Aladdin," Mr. Fred J. Little's pantomime, concludes tonight (Saturday) after a successful fortnight's engagement.

GRIMSBY.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. J. H. Curry; Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Carlton; Musical-Director, Mr. J. R. Bingley.—Mr. Allan Aynesworth's company is presenting "Ready Money." The company includes: Mr. Mark Blow, Mr. Fred Tooze, Mr. Laurence Ward, Mr. Archie Selwyn, Mr. Cedric Percival, Mr. H. B. Green, Mr. Aubrey Mather, Mr. Wilford Bailey, Mr. Douglas Payne, Mr. Sidney Lynn, Mr. William Holmes, Mr. Frank Hamilton, Mr. Jack Thomas, Miss Adelaide Tanner, Miss Helen Langton, Miss Dorothea St. Clair Smith, and Miss Olivia Glynn.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. F. Verner Walford; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. S. Surfleet; Musical-Director, Mr. T. Stevens.—This week: Charles Kasrac and company in tumbling speciality; George Newburn, mimic; Annie Fielding and Bert Bull, in song speciality; Mabel Sinclair, vocalist; Sisters Royce and Sid, vocalists and dancers; Francis and Alfred, jugglers; Ted Waite, comedian; Deane Tribune and Mlle. Cerrers, in "A Gay Deceiver."

GUERNSEY.

THEATRE ST. JULIAN'S.—Joint Managing-Directors, Messrs. Ed. Marris and Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. George A. Deighton.—This week: "Dick Whittington." The company includes: Mesdames Winnie Preece, Nora Burke, Rosie Gaston, Ethel Robinson, Aubrey Leslie, Doris Williams, and Norah Melton, and Messrs. A. Gallimore, Ken Gallimore, Will Brereton, Hubert Pursen, Arthur France, Billy Rex, and Bert Frere. Specialities by the Six Merry Macs, the Gallimores, and Miss Rosie Gaston.

HALIFAX.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Musical-Director, Mr. Edwin James.—This week: Mr. J. F. Elliston's company in "The Goose with the Golden Egg." The company includes: Mr. Alec Godfrey, Mr. George Goodfellow, Miss Eva Godfrey, Miss Nancy Benyon, Miss Jenny Gregson, Mr. Will Pfounds, Mr. T. A. Glover, Mr. Frank E. Melville, Mr. Ireland Cutter, Miss Cora Lavendale, Miss C. V. Adrienne, Morton Comedy Duo, Miss Edith Rolfe, Mr. George Hudson, Miss De Monte, Miss Nellie White, Miss Ella Mavelle, Miss Sophie Kingsmill, Miss Norah Darrah, Miss Claire Revell, Miss Molly Desmond, Miss Madge Daly, Miss Louie Carrington, Miss Sonnie Somerville, Miss Gen. Wiseman, Miss F. Almina Avis, Miss Mabelle Rose, Miss Frances Wenham, Miss Leah Lee, Little Ivy Francis, the Four Rosebuds. Musical-Director, Mr. W. R. Parker; Business-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Howard. Next week: Geo. Edwardes' No. 1 company in "The Merry Widow" and "The Dollar Princess."

GRAND.—Managing-Director, Mr. Wm. Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. Joe Hinton.—This week: Mr. J. Newton Cowling's company in "The Collier's Lass." The company includes: Mr. Henry Rutland, Mr. Stanley Radcliffe, Mr. Kenneth Jackson, Mr. William H. Melrose, Mr. Edward Mackenzie, Mr. Bert Johnson, Mr. John Locke, Mr. Easterbrook, Mr. George Loreno, Miss Ivy Clowser, Miss Bella Moody, Miss Ellen Beverley, Miss Hazel Head, and Miss Nina Blake-Adams. Manager, Mr. Stanley Radcliffe.

PALACE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edgar O. Waller.—This week: The Motley Four, vocalists; High Davos Co., trick roller skaters; Almasio and Yamina, juggler and tumbler; Gwennie Llewellyn; Sandy Donaldson, Scottish comedian; Dexter, ambidextrous artiste; Tom E. Hughes, in humorous character studies; and Graham, the human marionette.

HANLEY.

ROYAL.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Charles G. Elphinstone; Manager, Mr. Frank Powis.—"Sinbad the Sailor" continues on its record-breaking progress, and Messrs. Denton, Harris, and Elphinstone may congratulate themselves on their success.

GRAND.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Dudley Bromwich.—This week: Mr. Herbert Darnley's company in "Persevering Potts"; Max Franklins's flying acrobats; Emerald and Dupre, in an original act; Smit and Smit, on the bar; the Four Vagabonds, vocalists; La Belle Alva, dancer; and pictures.

KING'S.—Proprietors, Hanley Theatres, Ltd.; Lessee, Mr. J. P. Moore; Manager, Mr. Colin Hazlewood.—This week: Miss Travies, vocalist; and pictures.

HARROGATE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Acting-Manager, Mr. Eric Fielding Smith.—This week, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday (once nightly): Mr. Max Allen presents "Hindle Wakes." The company includes: Mr. J. Milne Taylor, Miss Ethel Hardacre, Miss Betty Fairfax, Mr. Hodgson Taylor, Miss Bessie Bedford, Mr. Keith Kenneth, Mr. Christopher Steele, Miss Gladys Lloyd, Miss Margaret Anderson. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Mr. Alfred Denville presents "The Miracle." The company includes: Mr. Clifford Rean, Mr. J. H. Clyndes, Mr. Dobson Paige, Mr. Alfred Denville, Mr. R. Ossulston-Riche, Mr. John Denville, Mr. George Austin, Mr. T. R. Bannister, Mr. Alex. Camm, Mr. C. H. Carten, Mr. Will Moody, Mr. G. Philips-Broughton, Mr. George Gordon, Mr. G. Webster, Miss Hilda Playfair, Miss Phene Powell, Miss Mary Alexander, Miss Patricia Bostock, Miss Hannah Bain, Miss Gertrude Carten, Miss Betty Stannard. Touring-Manager, Mr. R. Ossulston-Riche. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Next week: "Babes in the Wood."

HOUGHTON-LE-SPRING.

GAIETY.—Proprietors, Messrs. Ainsley and Hall; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Robt. Ainsley; Musical-Director, Mr. Alex. Schmidt.—Mr. Arthur Hinton and Miss Leila Zillwood present "Allah's Orchard." The company includes: Messrs. Arthur Hinton, Royce Carlton, Frank McClellan, Forbes Harrison, Alf. G. Raymond, Leonard Gardner, Mark Adams, Miss Florence Zillwood, Miss Ethel Monton, Miss Pauline Hayden, Miss Annette Howard, Miss Maimie West, and Miss Kitty Dillon.

EMPIRE. — Proprietors, Houghton Empire Theatres, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. H. Lindon Travers.—This week: Mavar and Barton, trick cyclists; Miss Violet Jay, instrumentalist; and pictures.

HUDDERSFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietors, Messrs. Milton Bode and Edward Compton; Business-Manager, Mr. Fred Benton.—This week (once nightly): Castellano Italian Grand Opera Co.; Monday, "Ernani"; Tuesday, "Faust"; Wednesday, "Cavalleria Rusticana," and "I Pagliacci"; Thursday, "Il Trovatore"; Friday, "Maritana"; Saturday matinée, 2.15, "Cavalleria Rusticana" and "I Pagliacci"; and Saturday night, "Faust." Touring-Manager, Mr. Gordon Smythe. The company includes: Signor Quintina, Signor Vinci, Signor Toto, Signora Hayes, Signora Protti, Signora Evarti, Signor Bartera, Signor Terraei, Signor Vittori. Matinée, Saturday, 2.15. Next week: "Aladdin."

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Northern Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. William Robinson; General-Manager, Mr. Otto C. Culling; Resident-Manager, Mr. S. Winks.—This week: Dottridge and Longden's "Cinderella." The company includes: Miss Winifred Wray, Miss Angela Hope, Miss Roberta Svendson, Mr. Randolph Sutton, Mr. Will Wynne, Mr. Victor Knight. Messrs. Nash and Noel, Mr. G. H. Shepherd, Mr. Fred Pullan, and Mr. Syd Howard.

PALACE.—Proprietor, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Herbert Garside.—This week: Miss Helena Millais and company, including Mr. Wm. Fraser-Brumner, in "Silver Creek"; Chas. Hera, juggler; Verno and Voyce, singing comedians; Felix and Fisher, sensational comedy gymnasts; the Lodi Family, acrobatic comedians; Master Frank Wilson, instrumentalist; Lawson and O'Dell, duettists; Miss Mamie Morris, comedienne and dancers; and pictures.

HULL.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietors, Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. W. F. Morton.—"Red Riding Hood" has now got into its proper swing, and the pruning knife has been most judiciously used, the best features being retained. The music, such as the season has provided, goes with merry swing, King Ragtime reigns over his subjects in charming fashion. If hard work and refined acting could secure a success for a principal boy, then Miss Marie Brayman would be assured of hers. Already she has made a host of friends, and the audience appreciate fully her efforts. She secures encores for all her songs, and puts her best into all she undertakes. Miss Rene Marsden has made a hit, and one reiterates the utmost praise for the shop scene interlude. The Fairy Queen has a voice of acceptable timbre, and sings most sympathetically. Miss Dorothy Meade's songs are nicely chosen. The Squire, played by Mr. Fred Maitland, is a strong feature in the performance. The other comedians are more or less amusing. Owing to the forthcoming farewell tour of Mr. Forbes Robertson, the performance will only run another week after the present.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE. — Proprietors, Morton's, Ltd.; Manager, Mr. Geo. Morton.—Mr. J. A. Campbell's clever play, recently produced in Manchester, "The Queen Mother," this week, makes its first appearance here, and is repeating at this popular playhouse the success it has achieved in other places visited. In both plot and dialogue it makes a strong and successful appeal to the playgoer. The King finds Mr. Rich, Boscoe the chance to shine, and he accordingly avails himself to the full. The hit of the evening was made by Miss Mary Fulton, who played the Queen in a manner that won for her high praise. Mr. Herbert Mansfield was very successful in the rôle of the Duke of Carola, and met with an ovation. Miss Ruth Zillwood is an artiste of whose merit we have many times spoken. On Monday she repeated her former success. She is well cast as the Duchess of Mirimar. As the Crown Prince Master Frank Beresford evidenced much intelligence. The other members of the company display considerable skill.

PALACE THEATRE. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. John S. Barnett; Musical-Director, Mr. Albert E. Leader.—An excellent attraction here this week is Herbert Darnley's company in the sketch, "Potts in Port." With Mr. Fred. Kitchen in the rôle of Potts, and a capital company supporting, the fun is fast and furious; Mlle. Golda possesses a charming soprano voice, and her singing of popular ballads evoked warm praise; Walter Bellonini, juggler, with a new series of clever tricks, is much appreciated, able assistance being given to the act by his droll attendant; the New Macs, a pair of lively patter comedians, deputise for Dort and Leonard; in a vocal and dancing speciality Kathleen O'Hanlon and Karl Rivkin are responsible for a delightful turn; Fred Poplar is very funny with his burlesque acting; and Kitty Wager is a pleasing comedienne. Bioscope pictures complete. Wilfrid Burnand, comedian and mimic, was unable to appear on Monday night owing to indisposition.

TIVOLI.—Lessees, Kingston Varieties Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Harry Slingsley.—Here this week large audiences have appreciated the Ragtime Six, whose turn is particularly good; Adeline Yohle and company present a quaint act, entitled "Difficulties," which is full of good comedy; David Poole, ventriloquist, is popular; Johnson and De Vere are responsible for a humorous pot-pourri act; the Seven Selects, in a singing and dancing act, are a prominent attraction; Original Tykov, Japanese character gymnast, contributes some clever feats; and other successful items are contributed by Sinclair, baton spinner and club juggler; and Alice Craven, a vivacious comedienne.

HYDE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Tom N. Mills. This week (once nightly): Messrs. Polini and Melford present "The Silver King." The company includes: Messrs. Arthur H. Rooke, Alfred Terris, H. Elliot Ball, Raymond le Caudley, Arthur Wright, Fred May, Leslie Ellis, Stanley Terran, L. Ettway, J. Falkner, A. Fry, P. Abutt, F. Allwood, Henry Littlejohn, J. O. Smith, E. Fisher, I. V. Harte, Master Rodney, Misses Roberta Pulleyne, Dorothy Douglas, Margaret Cloud, Fanny Benstead, Edith Berson, Ellen Foster, and P. Mackay. Next week: "Robinson Crusoe."

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. Stansfield.—This week (twice nightly): Elroy, armless entertainer; Harley Boys; and pictures.

ILKESTON.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PICTUREDROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; Resident Manager, Mr. Aubrey Allen.—This week: Miss Pamela Moore's company, in "The Bank Robbery"; the Mozarts, musical act; Mezzettis, comedy horizontal bar act; and pictures.

INVERNESS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Burgess.—For the first three nights of this week Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company presented "The Mousmé." The company includes: Miss Hope Trevelyan, Miss Phyllis Hughes, Messrs. Herbert Glenny, Guy Buckland, Eric Barrington, Joseph Victor, J. E. Swinburne, Mr. G. Gibb McLaughlin, and Mr. Edwin Dodds.

MUSIC HALL. — Lessee, Mr. F. R. Kelso. — This week: Rich and Russel, comedy duo; Petro and Leon, gymnasts; Anton Hersleb and company, in comedy; and pictures.

IPSWICH.

LYCEUM.—Proprietors, The Ipswich Lyceum, Ltd.; Lessees, Messrs. Murray King, Clarke and W. H. Savery; Resident-Manager, Mr. Cecil G. Blumberg; Musical-Director, Mr. H. Lewin Taylor.—This week: Mr. Arthur Roberts and company, in "The Girl Who Lost Her Honeymoon," including Mr. Arthur Roberts, Mr. Harry J. Worth, Mr. E. Clements, Mr. E. Sykes, Miss L. Stevens, and Miss N. Townshend; Mr. Wilson Blackledge and a piano, in a musical mélange, entitled "Till Sunday; or, A River Episode," the cast of which includes Mr. Arthur Roberts, Mr. Harry J. Worth, Mr. Harry Huddlestone, Mr. E. Sykes, Miss Loraine Stevens, and Miss N. Townshend. Next week, "Fanny's First Play."

HIPPODROME.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Bostock; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. Gordon Bostock. — This week (twice nightly): Mr. Fred Karno's pantomime, "The House That Jack Built." The company includes: Miss Dulcie Garland, Miss Gertie Manson, Miss Enid Cutler, Miss Lucy Clements, Miss Maie Dillon, Doris and Gladys, Miss Adela Masson, Mr. W. E. Matthews, Misses Melville and Roberts, Mr. Lennie Dormer, Mr. Harold Wellesley, Miss Jessie de Grey, and Little Mark.

JARROW.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. T. Edward Evans.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. E. Hill-Mitchelson presents "For Her." The company includes: Mr. Herbert Skardon, Mr. Cyprian H. Matthews, Mr. Beckett Bould, Mr. Newton Pearce, Mr. Arthur Pringle, Mr. John Byrne, Mr. E. Edward Brooke, Miss Vida Rogerson, Mr. S. Johnson, Mr. W. Hastings, Mr. J. Kelsham, Miss May Beatrice, Miss Nancy Mitchell, and Miss Sidney Crowe. Followed by "Delicate Ground." Next week: "Dick Whittington."

JERSEY.

OPERA HOUSE.—Lessees, the Jersey and Guernsey Amusements Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Stanley Hope.—This week. Monday to Thursday: The Carellis, comedy artistes; Souplessi, boneless wonder; Leo Carle, protean wonder; pictures.

KETTERING.

COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Messrs. Thompson Bros.; Manager, Mr. A. Thompson.—This week: Kahli Ru's company, in "The Sacrifice"; Olive Marshall, comedienne; Lack and Ford, acrobatic comedians; the Three Victors, in "The Flower of the Prairie"; and pictures.

PALACE.—Proprietors, The Palace Theatres Co.; Manager, Mr. J. G. Covington.—This week: Alix Lukos, character impersonator; the Bros Passmore, comedians; Frank Earley, comedian; Maudie Goodman, vocalist; Musical Sylvo; and pictures.

KILMARNOCK.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Lillie Williams and Co.; Manager, Mr. Thomas Rodger.—Mr. Herbert Ralland's company was here for three nights with "The Girl in the Train." The company includes: Mr. Bay Russell, Mr. Percy Watson, Mr. F. W. Bowes, Mr. C. F. Cooke, Mr. Stafford Dickens, Mr. G. Campion, Mr. Cecil Moylan, and Mr. Philip Cooper; Miss Ethel Oliver, Miss Rosa Burchell, Miss Winnie Hall, and Miss Dagmar Dargue. Chorus and orchestra under the direction of Mr. W. H. Shaw. Mr. Bay Russell is the general-manager of the company.

PALACE.—Manager, Mr. J. Cummings.—This week: The Oaks Duo, in sketch; Brizlee, flute and piccolo soloist; the Four Cronies, in Scottish musical sketch, entitled "Poosie Nancie."

KING'S LYNN.

NEW ROYAL THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Reginald Pareezer; Conductor of Orchestra, Mr. Carlton Colina.—This week: Mr. Arthur Carlton's company present "The Babes in the Wood," the scenery and effects for which are exceptionally fine. The company includes: Messrs. Barry Gilmore, F. Ramsdale, F. Russell, Sam Weller, W. Smith, Arthur Lawrence, Misses Miriam Stuart, Q. Victoria, Irene Barnard, D. Dryden, C. Haines, M. Royce, B. Green, V. Duggan, Milly St. Clair, A. Graham, H. Viviane, I. Moss, S. Leslie, A. Thomas, L. Johnson, D. Webster, L. and M. Desmond, and the Bulgarian Ballet Troupe.

LANCASTER.

GRAND THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Tom Braithwaite; Musical-Director, Mr. John Parker.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Glenville and Osmond present "The Still Alarm." The company includes: William Edwards, Eddie Tudor, Harry Johnson, Tom Varney, George Francis, the greyhound "Laddie," Mabel Veriton, Dorothy Hildebrande, Kathleen Stewart, Vernon Fortescue, George Gaisford, Edward Hobart, Victor C. Rolfe, Vincent Harvey, Lewis Gordon, George Organ, Bernard Ince, Henry Smith, Jack Topping. Touring-Manager, Mr. Victor C. Rolfe. Next week: "The Blackguard of the Queen's Regiment."

LEAMINGTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Director, Mr. C. S. Birch; Manager, Mr. H. Trenly Birch.—Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday: Lionel Rignold's and Charles Macdona's company, in "Fanny's First Play." The company includes: Mr. Lionel Rignold, Mr. Charles Macdonna, Miss Marie Daltra, Miss Marie Rignold, Miss Ethel O'Shea, Mr. Herbert Garthorne, Mr. William Stack, Miss Nellie Hodson, Mr. Gilbert Ritchie, Mr. Algernon Syms, Miss Ruth Chalfont, Mr. E. H. Paterson, Mr. R. Green, Mr. F. Payne Palmer, Mr. L. Herbert, and Mr. Louis Tealy, junr.

COLONNADE THEATRE DE LUXE.—Manager, Mr. Harry Plant. — This week: St. Maldo and Coombs, in "On Regatta Day," vocal and musical act; Gordon Brown, boy tenor; and pictures.

LEEDS.

QUEEN'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Fred W. Wood; Manager and Licensee, Mr. Charles Bush; Musical-Director, Mr. G. W. Jackson.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. T. Edward Ward's company present "A Lad's Love." The company includes: Mr. Henry Halliatt, Mr. Alec Wilson-Wynne, Mr. John Blake, Mr. H. Kenneth Barton, Mr. Percy Shaw, Mr. Percy Godfrey, Mr. F. Thorpe-Tracey, Mr. George Walkley, Mr. Frederick Barrett, Mr. George S. Blount, Mr. Roland Ivan, Miss Eily O. Dempsey, Miss Violette May, Miss Lillian Lovell, Miss Irene Stanhope, Miss Zerlina Harrington. Next week: "The Eyes of the World." Matinée, Monday, at 2.30.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. P. C. Rowe.—This week (twice nightly): Yorke and Adams; Bella and Bijou, in comedy interludes; Louis Alvarez, tenor; Pyck, Thöll, and Taylor, in "The Dancing Master"; Rich Taylor, ventriloquist; Chas. Cardow, comedian; W. T. Ellwanger and Co., in "Who Did It?"; Donaldson Bros., in "Sports in a Jungle"; Torcat and trained roosters; and pictures.

HIPPODROME. — Resident - Manager and Licensee, Mr. Bertram J. Brown.—This week (twice nightly): J. F. Elliston presents "Puss in Boots." The company includes: Miss Cherry Hardy Mr. Arthur Mertz, Mr. Will Beanland, Mr. Walter Whittle, Mr. Happy Attwood, Mr. Harry Wilkinson, Mr. Jack Volta, Miss Molly McCarthy, Miss Vivian Stafford, Miss Rosie Westgate, Miss Gertie Leno. Touring-Manager, Mr. Antonius Baker. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30.

LEEK.

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, The Leek Theatre Co., Ltd.; Lessee and Manager, Mr. James Bibby; Musical-Director, Mr. H. W. Goldstraw.—This week, the first three nights (twice nightly): The Jumels, in musical specialities; Marion Castrelle, soprano vocalist; Charles Loret, comedian; and pictures. The last three nights (twice nightly): Mr. Harold Wagner and Miss Ada Tilley's company present "A Trip to Chinatown."

SALISBURY PALACE.—Proprietors, The Leek Skating Rink Co., Ltd.; Licensee, Mr. Sampson Salt; General-Manager, Mr. George Salt; Acting-Manager, Mr. George E. Gough; Musical-Director, Mr. Harold Ellis.—This week (twice nightly): The Four Huzzar Girls and the Sentry, vocalists and dancers, in original comedy; George Young, blind musician and concertina soloist, assisted by Mrs. George Young; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

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Davis, Misses Marie, Grace, Ethel, Gladys Holt, Miss Lucy Athol, Miss Flo Horne, Miss Agnes Gardner, Miss Millie Grafton, Miss Lily Gaston, Miss Flo Walker, Miss Mabel Ryde, Miss Lottie Albert, Miss Phyllis Cross, Miss Vera Alton, Miss Blanche Collins, Miss Grace Veevers, Miss Alice Lawton, and Miss Lillian Stuart. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30. Next week: "Brewster's Millions."

GRAND THEATRE AND HIPPODROME, LTD.—Secretary and Acting-Manager, Mr. Wm. Woolstencroft.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Joe Redfern's pantomime, "Cinderella." The company includes: Miss Florrie Millington, Miss Val Gerald, Miss Ada Bellfield, Miss Vanda Rees, Miss Kitty Marston, Miss Alice Bellfield, Mr. Jack Murray, Miss Marion Holly, Mr. Will Charlton, Mr. Harold Carlyle, Mr. Geo. Houghton, Mr. Walter Amner, Mr. Willie Westwood, and Harry Firth's Eight Dainty Maids. Matinées, Monday and Saturday, at 2.30.

LEITH.

GAIETY THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. F. R. Graham-Yooll; General-Manager, Mr. R. M. Stratmore; Musical-Director, Mr. John Crossley.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Harry McKelvie's pantomime, "Mother Hubbard." The company includes: Mr. Peter Bermingham, Mr. Chas. Jackson, Miss Edie Haley, Miss Maggie Fraser, Mr. J. S. Stephens, Mr. J. Randle Wilson, the Brothers Lavelle, and Miss Reta Halkett.

LIMERICK.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. G. V. Fogerty; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Fogerty.—The old Royal, which for some time has been in the hands of the architect and builder, is now almost a new theatre, the entire building having been renovated, newly seated, and decorated, whilst the outside structure has been covered in with an artistic canopy. The doors opened on Monday night to a large audience, and in addition to a number of fine films, the first appearance of Mlle. Louise and Bruno Pitrot in a fetchy novelty act evoked rounds of applause. The orchestra, under the able bâton of Mme. Marie Burdette, is clever, and Mr. Harry Fogerty as guide is as popular as heretofore.

LINCOLN.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, Messrs. W. Payne Seddon and Ernest Pope; Resident-Manager, Mr. Ernest Pope.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Lewis Waller presents "A Butterfly on the Wheel." The company includes: Mr. O. Powis Griffiths, Mr. Cecil Humphreys, Mr. Douglas Greet, Mr. Herbert Greville, Mr. Henry Tyne, Mr. Morrice Seaton, Mr. Norman Leslie, Mr. Shirley Gerard, Mr. Andrew McIntyre, Mr. Edward Herbert, Mr. John Wardrop, Mr. George Cumming, Miss Daisy Cordell, Miss Violet Greville, Miss Frances Titheradge. Touring-Manager, Mr. Herbert Greville. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Next week: "The Forty Thieves."

LIVERPOOL.

ROYAL COURT.—Proprietors, Robert Arthur Theatres Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. F. W. Wyndham; General-Manager, Mr. George T. Minshull; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur Lawrence; Musical-Director, Mr. Jullien H. Wilson.—The pantomime of "Tommy Tucker" is going along right merrily and splendid business is being done.

SHAKESPEARE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. John Gaffney; Musical-Director, Mr. Frank Shea.—"Jack Horner" has now settled down, and is proving very popular with large numbers of people.

ROTUNDA.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Coles; Musical-Director, Mr. F. Thompson.—Mr. Fred Granville's company have been here this week with "At the Mercy of the Mormons." Miss Ruby Loraine found great favour as the school teacher, Ruth Marlow; Mr. H. P. Sullivan played Ruddy Rodger in admirable style, the audience giving him a flattering reception; Mr. Edwin Davies impersonated Mexican Jake satisfactorily; as Lucy Harris Miss Hazel Dent was much appreciated; a funny Stumpy Liz came from Miss Alice Maude; and other good supporters were Messrs. Lincoln Calthorpe (Ezra Higbee), Jerrold E. Reed (Taussig), W. O. Rossiter (Guffy), and Walter Leahair (Slim Jim).

REPERTORY. — General-Manager, Mr. Basil Dean; Business-Manager, Mr. T. J. Pigott; Musical-Director, Mr. Joseph Smith; Stage-Manager and Producer, Mr. Arthur K. Phillips.—The fairy frolic, "Fifinella," remains in the bill and enjoys much public patronage. A matinée is being given daily.

KELLY'S.—Lessee, Mr. W. W. Kelly; Acting-Manager, Mr. Reginald Grant; Musical-Director, Mr. J. A. Gardner.—The third week of the Moody-Manners Opera Company's season has proved greatly successful. A feature of the programme was the reappearance of Mr. Charles Manners in the character of Devilshoof ("Bohemian Girl"). Two matinées were given during the week.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Manners; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Arthur Hicks; Musical-Director, Mr. George M. Saker.—A somewhat novel turn has been heading the bill here this week in the form of two Dutch entertainers, known as Chretienne and Louisette, who provided a capital all-round sketch, entitled "From Peasant to Artist," which was well received; C. J. Johnson, the black diamond, was as smart as ever; Alf Gibson brought some funny songs and patter; the Durant Brothers went through a diverting entertainment, "Everything"; Smythe and Hartman showed themselves a couple of amusing American entertainers, their novelty song "Before and after" proving especially good; Alexandra Dagmar at the piano afforded keen enjoyment; Marie Kay danced and sang in delightful style; Mrs. Graeme Goring and company had a laughable Scotch comedy sketch, "The Heid o' the Hoose"; and Spiegler's quintette of instrumentalists and musicians earned great applause for their talented work.

LYRIC.—Lessees, Liverpool Lyric Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Henry C. Arnold; Musical-Director, M. R. Klasse.—Foremost here this week was Mr. P. J. Gillens' company, in a merry Scotch comedy sketch, "Rogers," Mr. Jimmy Cairns appearing in the cast; as vocalists and dancers the Boys of England found great favour, being greeted with rounds of applause; Les Lurraines were a talented couple of ladies, whose playing of brass instruments earned for them cordial recognition; Jack Sandon, as a boy, gave a smart exhibition of physical culture; possessed of a rich contralto voice Ethel Bourne sang several numbers in excellent style; Le Hurst went through a clever ventriloquial turn; and De Mona and Wills provided an acceptable musical show.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. George F. Slatter; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred Braham.—Tiller's pantomime, "Sindbad the Sailor," has put in another week, resulting in good business.

ROYAL PALACE.—Manager, Mr. M. Montgomery; Acting-Manager, Mr. Frank O'Toole; Musical-Director, Mr. G. Dibbert.—Here we have had Mr. Hill Mitchelson's stirring drama, "The French Spy," played twice nightly before big audiences. The members of the stock company who undertook the principal parts were Messrs. Sydney Grant (Count Romanoff), Harry Tresham (Captain Somers), Leo Montgomery (Nicholas), Miss F. Melrose Millett (Countess Loriac), and Miss Gwynne Warren (Olga).

OLYMPIA.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. E. W. James; Assistant-Manager, Mr. D. Casey; Musical-Director, Mr. Albert Moore.—The pantomime, "Dick Whittington," with Miss May Moore Duprez and Mr Harry Weldon, continues to attract

HIPPODROME. — Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. Walter Hassan; Musical-Director, Mr. Frank Stokes.—The attraction here this week has been Mr. George Black's pantomime, "Cinderella," which has afforded general satisfaction. Miss May Gibson in the title-rôle was a delightful figure, and she danced and sang in really excellent style; Miss Kitty Upton impersonated the Prince, a rôle which exactly suited her; a spirited Dandini came from Miss Gertie Rex; Miss Daisy Melbourne looked very pretty as the Fairy Queen; Firth and Forth were the bull; Mr. Horace Horner made a lively Dame; and great fun followed the antics of Messrs. Stanley Vandyke (Baron), Percy Johnson (Peps), Bert Earle (Phil), and Jack Melville (Garlic); while Mr. H. White did well as the Demon King. Speciality dances were given by the Birkenhead Family. The pantomime, which was produced by Mr. Fred Terris, was nicely put on, and full of pretty girls and picturesque scenery.

LONGTON.

QUEEN'S.—Proprietors, Longton Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. H. Sherriff Howard.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Tom H. Taylor presents "When London Sleeps." The company includes: Mr. Alfred D. Adams, Mr. Herbert Morgan, Mr. Ernest C. Edwards, Mr. Sydney Arthur, Mr. Victor Mason, Mr. Ridgewood Barrie, Mr. John Belton, Mr. J. E. Abbott, Mr. Robert Barcham, Mr. Edwin Newman, Mr. Alfred Ames, Mr. Sam T. Lea, Miss Winifred Maine, Miss Alice Hellier, Little Madge Hope, Miss Louie Heathfield, Miss Cissie Cleveland, Miss Christine Middleton, Miss Bella Power, Miss Florence Halton, and Miss Florence Dalton. Touring-manager, Mr. Alfred D. Adams. Next week: "A Trip to China Town."

LOUGHBOROUGH.

VINT'S ELECTRIC HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Graham Hylton.—This week: The Toladonas, in a charming musical mélange; France and Lillington, in a screamingly funny sketch, "A Slight Mistake"; Gladys and Alber, in their "Famous Funnisities and pictures.

LOWESTOFT.

MARINA.—Proprietor, Mr. B. Pareezer.—This week: Mr. Fred W. Carpenter's "Aladdin." The company includes Miss Madge White.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Geo. Gilbert.—This week: Peggy Pryde; Daisy Alma; the Fitzroys; the Five M.P.'s, in musical act; and pictures.

MACCLESFIELD.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. W. K. Gatley.—This week: Mr. Alexander Marsh's company in répertoire, including "The Three Musketeers," "Romeo and Juliet," "David Garrick," and "A Tale of Two Cities." The company includes: Mr. Alexander Marsh, Miss Carrie Baillie, Mr. Edward Sterling, Miss M. Grimshaw, Miss Dora Mason, Mr. Wilson Gunning, Mr. Henry Oscar, Miss Gladys Edwards, Mr. Frank Smith, Miss Agnes Gagan, Mr. Ian Fleming, Mr. Edmund Tennant, Mr. Edmund Trollope, Mr. Edwin Beverley, and Mr. J. William Mollison.

MAIDSTONE.

PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Ewart C. Potter.—This week: Paul Mill, with his Courtiers; Walter Ellis and company, in a comedy sketch, "The Sleep Walker"; Le Burl, in a posing and dancing act; Nelson Hardy, ventriloquist; the Great Hermon, in his extraordinary hoop juggling; Ernie Leno, dancer; and Kitty Stone, comedienne.

MANCHESTER.

ROYAL OSBORNE.—Proprietors, Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Brearley; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Cotton.—Messrs. Beresford and Pearce present here this week H. O. Wills' pantomime, "The Forty Thieves," produced under the supervision of Johnny Clegg. H. O. Wills's reputation as a fun-maker is well known, and amply substantiated by his humorous impersonation of the rôle of Ali Baba; while as Ganem, his son, Miss Ada Fawn makes a hit in every requirement as principal boy. Miss May Edney is a charming Morgiana; and among other prominent entertainers in the cast are Lincoln Taylor as Cassim Baba and Matt Morley as Cogia. Specialities are added by the Esdaile Bros. (of the Baghdad Police). Sid Raymond (the Donkey), and Ben Ford (Hasserac). The production is brilliant and entirely successful.

QUEEN'S PARK HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. C. W. Meek; Musical-Director, Mr. Edward Bleasdale.—An attractive programme here comprises Billy Williams, the popular Australian comedian; Bradshaw and Brooks, very smart comedy entertainers; Sydney Brandon, monologue and character artiste; the Great Darnell, in a magic pantomime illusion; Lilly Jester, juvenile comedienne and mimic; Woodward and Page, in a striking speciality act; Bart and Bart, acrobatic comedians; and Jim Max, coon vocalist and speciality dancer.

JUNCTION THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. John Mason; Musical-Director, Mr. Sydney L. Hampton.—Andie Caine's production of "Dick Whittington," played already for two weeks at local houses, is staged here, and maintains its attraction for the public in search of enjoyable and seasonable entertainment.

EMPIRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Cocks; Musical-Director, Mr. R. Hardwick.—A powerful magnet here is Wilkie Bard, who is drawing full houses, and whose "Rag-time" and "Night Watchman" numbers are greatly enjoyed and appreciated. The Alex. Piccad Troupe, in their knockabout sketch, "The Burglars of New York," are also featured in the bill. A smart juvenile turn is that of Little Ettie Howard, who mimics popular artistes; the Venetians present a pleasing and artistic turn; and other good items are Irene Millar, comedienne; Sammy Shields, the "football" comedian, who is especially successful; the Stylo Duo, hoop juggling and wooden-shoe experts; and Frank Hemming and Marie Free, in an entertaining comedy act.

METROPOLE THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Edward M. Hamilton; Musical-Director, Mr. C. H. Bayley.—Mr. and Mrs. Charles Draycott's company are appearing here in the popular Indian drama, "The Great White Chief," originally produced in Manchester and always welcome to local audiences. A strong cast includes Mrs. Charles Draycott, and Messrs. Percy Follis, Russel Norrie, and Charles E. Johnson.

KING'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ivor Harvey; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred J. Wilson. — Mr. J. Gar Kiddie's pantomime, "Mother Goose," is playing here this week to good houses, continuing the local Broadhead circuit.

PALACE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Manager, Mr. Peter Watson; Secretary and Assistant-Manager, Mr. Jesse Hewitt; Musical-Director, Mr. T. H. Gaggs.—Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," is proving a big draw here, and deservedly so. As Robinson, Miss Lily Edwards, with her fine figure, is excellent; and very pleasing is Miss Gwen Lewis as Polly, who sings and dances well. Mr. Arnold Richardson as Billy Crusoe is a great success, his comedy being highly amusing. Mr. H. Flockton-Foster as Will Atkins is the usual pantomime villain, and he has from time to time some capital business. As Mrs. Crusoe, Mr. E. Leslie Coupe is quite a refined old lady; Mr. Donald Gilbert as Friday is first rate, his duet with Polly ("Beautiful doll") being the hit of the show. Other principal parts are in the hands of smart artistes, including Mr. Charles North (a fine singer), Miss Vera Hind, Miss Flo Orchard, Miss Lilian Mars, Miss Rene Tremsew, Miss Alice Watling, and Mr. John Canadian. Excellent specialities are introduced by the Cedric Comedy Four, the Astoria Sextette of Dancers, and Elton and Elma, boxers and knockabouts. The scenery is particularly good, and the dresses are pretty.

HIPPODROME. — Managing - Director, Mr. Oswald Stoll; Acting-Manager, Mr. Nelson Barry; Musical-Director, Mr. Alfred Haines.—Mr. Hengler's exciting water show, "The Smuggler," is still proving a great attraction here. The Joseph Adelmann Family score a big success in a delightful musical turn, especially with the xylophone and tympanino, the latter a voice producing instrument, invented by Mr. Adelmann. Very laughable is Cliff Berzac's equestrian sketch, "A Riding Academy"; the shadowgraphy of the De Breans is greatly enjoyed; Sanford and Lyons are very effective in simultaneous dancing and talk; and other exceedingly smart turns are provided by the Stein Esthor troupe of head-and-hand balancers; Will Hay, comedian; and the Terry Trio, including Jules and Bella, juvenile entertainers. Some interesting pictures are shown on the Bioscope.

TIVOLI.—Proprietors, The Tivoli (Manchester), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Chas. A. Wilkes; Manager, Mr. Arthur B. Wilkes; Musical-Director, Mr. George Neilson.—A capital programme here is headed by the Amati Sisters (Katie and Valerie), featuring the latest Viennese waltz and rag-time crazes. Frank and Vesta are also very well received for their rag-time dancing; and a hit is made by Vittorio and Georgetto, upside down boys. Adam Tomlinson, the Tyneside comedian, causes no end of laughter with his funny talk; and Haidee de Ranee charms as a violinist and vocalist. Smart turns are also offered by Massona, eccentric juggler; Dulcie Moore, at the piano; and the Letines in novel acrobatic act. Ruffell's Bioscope completes.

HULME HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Fred Dry; Musical-Director, Mr. Harry Walker.—Mr. J. F. Elliston presents with success the Meymotte, supported by Miss R. Webb-smith, in a capital comedy playlet, entitled "In the Future," by Harry Edlin. Horace White, the ventriloquist at the piano, makes a big hit; and Frank Cass, vocal comedian, scores with several effective songs. Another extra good turn is that of Talbot and Pearce, in their Irish musical duologue, "Over the Garden Wall"; and Harry Edson and his dog are highly entertaining. Other very smart turns are provided by Beale and Broadway, harmony and dancing duo; the Four Charles; and Guest and Newlyn, in funny talk. "Jim's joy day," on the Bioscope, is a laughable film.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE, OPENSHAW. — Lessees, The Alhambra (Manchester), Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr H. D. Moorhouse; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur S. Evanson; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Harney.—An excellent all-round programme here is headed by Francini Olloms and his Page in a really marvellous entertainment. W. J. Churchill, the well-known comedian, is also to the front in amusing songs and patter; Dome, the comedy clay modeller, gives a turn both artistic and funny; Elstree is capital at the piano; and James and Jenny Jee go through an exceedingly smart performance with bicycles on the slack wire. Other enjoyable items are those of Nellie Coleman in a pleasing pantomime scena, "A Child's Dream"; Ess and Hoey, speciality dancers; and Brierley and Fenton, in vocal songscena, "Pals."

LESLIE'S PAVILION.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. Harry Leslie.—This week (once nightly): Bernard Rowley, tenor; Harry Hartley, baritone; the famous Minnesingers (Saturday night). Matinée, Saturday, at 3.

KING'S HOTEL, OXFORD-ROAD.—R. Davies, Proprietor.

MANSFIELD.

GRAND THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Mansfield, Sutton, and District Theatres, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Captain Cecil Clayton. — This week: Travis Green and Graham Winsford's Co. in "The Pride of the Prairie." The company includes: Messrs. Graham Winsford, William Hayes, S. E. Scanlan, P. M. Wright, A. Duval, H. Sidney, H. Goodier, C. Y. Fixott, J. J. Stadden, Harold Downes, Walter Hicks, G. Leslie Buxton, Cecil Harding, Ling Treherne, L. Gardener, Frank Shirley, Jack Entwistle, Ben Batty, Ernest Williams, Henry Hurst, Fred Horning, Julius Werner, Alf Sooper; Misses Etta Delamere, Elsie Dene, Mary Pitcairn, Ethel Bickham.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Mansfield, Sutton, and District Theatres, Ltd.; General-Manager, Captain Cecil Clayton; Resident-Manager, Mr. F. Lantree.—This week: The Bucher Bros., in gymnastic act; Archie Mills, versatile comedian; Tom Gordon and his Four Flipper Kids, dancers and vocalists; and pictures.

PALACE ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Proprietors, The United Electric Theatres, Ltd., London.—This week: The Dainty Dot Trio, singers and dancers; Ernie Clapham in song and story; and pictures.

MARGATE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. Frank Weathersby.—This week (once nightly): Mr. E. A. Hill-Mitchelson, jun.'s, company, in "A Queen for a Wife." The company includes: Mr. E. A. Hill-Mitchelson, jun., Mr. Ernest Fosbrooke, Mr. Warwick Wellington, Mr. Michael Staples, Mr. Arthur Robinson, Mr. W. H. Garbois, Mr. Henry Armitage, Mr. Tom J. Taylor, Mr. Edward Gramon, Mr. W. Carpenter, Mr. H. Toms, Miss Florence French, Miss Rosie Russell, Mrs. Bennett, and Miss Alice Belmore. Next week: "Red Riding Hood."

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Mayall.—This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Sydney Bransgrove and N. C. Slaughter present "The Night of the Party." The company includes: Mr. Harold Maligny, Mr. H. E. Garden, Mr. Louis Palgrave, Mr. William Matthews, Mr. Charles Groves, Mr. Lionel Howard, Mr. R. Rivers, Mr. Ellis Dee, Mr. H. B. Green, Mr. Alfred Rivers, Miss Julie Middleton, Miss Ruby Hallier, Miss Hilda Glynn, Miss Violet Wynne, Miss Beatrice Marsdene, Mr. Hugh Mackenzie, Mr. Charles Bydon, Mr. Henry Swann, and Miss Beatrice Maude. Touring-Manager, Mr. Alfred Rivers.

MERTHYR TYDFIL.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessees, The South Wales Entertainments, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. J. W. Wilkinson.—This week: Mr. George Edwardes presents "The Count of Luxembourg." The company includes: Miss Mary Hesseltine, Miss Clarice Lockstone, Miss Joan Pereira, Miss Madge Broadwood, Miss Dora Keys, Miss Peggy Grey, Miss Ruby Tattersall, Miss Sadrene Storri, Mr. Field Fisher, Mr. Mansell Stringer, Mr. Barnard Moore, Mr. Dutton Nicholls, Mr. Franklyn Davies, Mr. J. Western, Mr. Allen Forde, Mr. Bevan Browne, Mr. J. Sharland, and Mr. Howard V. Crofton. The orchestra is under the direction of Mr. W. Forbes Martin.

TEMPERANCE HALL AND CENTRAL CINEMA.—General-Manager, Mr. Israel Price.—This week (twice nightly): Gilbert Heron and company present "Saved by Wireless"; the Ellesmeres, troupe of trick cyclists; Harland and Rollison, in novelty act; Kromer, ventriloquist; Louie Linda, comedienne; Joey Stirling, quaint character comedian; and pictures.

MEXBOROUGH.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. G. W. and G. E. Smith; Manager, Mr. W. L. Knight; Musical-Director, Mr. G. W. Simpson.—This week: Four Curtis's, vocalists and expert dancers; the Wedburns, comedians; La Belle Tosca, on silver wire and juggling act on rolling globe; J. E. Sutton, entertainer at the piano; Bernardo, card expert; Maud Hughes, soprano; and pictures.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, The Empire Palace (Mexborough), Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Beverley; Musical-Director, Mr. Arthur E. White.—This week (twice nightly): Horace and Miss Lolletta, Italian equilibrists, and Marvello; the Holsons (Bert and Cil), vocalists and comedians; and pictures. Matinée, Tuesday morning, at 10.30. Picture matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

MONTAGU ARMS.—Prof. House. Proprietor, Mr. F. J. Law.

MIDDLESBROUGH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Acting-Manager, Mr. W. K. Chatto.—This week (once nightly): Mr. J. Chas. Imeson presents "Aladdin." The company includes: Miss Florence Imeson, Miss Nellie Dale, Miss Lola Patey, Miss Cissy Iris, Miss May Iris, Mr. Edward Lewis, Mr. Arthur Poole, Mr. J. Courtenay Fagan, Mr. Will Percival, Messrs. Regan and Ryan, Mr. Jos. H. Keogh, Miss Stranack. Matinée, Saturday, at 2 p.m.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. J. Chas. Imeson; Manager, Mr. G. Imeson.—This week: "The Gambler," by Mr. H. Foxwell's company, which includes: Mr. F. Scott Leighton, Mr. Dane Clarke, Mr. Leonards Harrison, Mr. Frank H. St. Clair, Mr. Frank Caffrey, Mr. Edgar Charles, Mr. Jack Hancock, Mr. Joe Black, Mr. Alf Wright, Mr. Willis Collins, Mr. John Allen, Miss Maisie Hanbury, Miss Jessie Scott, and Miss Constance Medwyn.

EMPIRE.—Manager, Mr. Parker.—This week: Barton and Ashley, comedy act; Maud Tiffany, comedienne; Bennie Barrow, comedian; the Four Delevines, in "The Wicked Witch's Wish"; Griff, juggler, mimic, etc.; Constance Cassell, vocalist; John and Lilian Grand, in "At Home and Abroad"; and Franco Piper, musician.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Thompson; Manager, Mr. S. Gibson.—This week: Australian Troupe of Bushmen; Bi-Ber-Ti, conjurer; and pictures.

NEATH.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, Vint's Theatres, Ltd; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. J. Noice; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden. — This week (once nightly): Mr. Chas. H. Lester presents "The Frontier Queen." The company includes: Mr. Chas. H. Lester, Mr. Henry Johnson, Mr. John Talford, Mr. Henry C. Gilpin, Mr. Henry Bowler, Chief Brown Bear, Chief Eagle Elk, Mr. Edward O'Grady, Mr. A. W. Howson, Mr. A. Bancroft, Mr. Pat Van Issher, Mr. James Stephenson, Mr. A. Mowbray, Mr. E. Harold, Mr. James Underwood, Mr. W. Murray Johns, Mr. Harry Field, Mr. Reeves Hickton, Miss M. Majilton, Miss Dorothy Riddell, and Miss Beatrice Anderson. Next week "Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves."

GNOLL HALL.—Proprietors, Gnoll Picture and Variety Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. Vivian Aldridge; Musical-Director, Mr. G. M. Butt.—This week (twice nightly): The Comedy Meisters, comedians and vocalists; the Nicholsons, comedy duo; Lillian, lady cyclist; pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

VINT'S PALACE.—Proprietors, Vint's Theatres, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. E. Gilley. — This week (twice nightly): The Grey Troupe, eccentric knockabouts; Morton and Elliot, paper manipulators and vocalists; pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

NELSON.

GRAND.—Lessee, Mr. W. C. Horner; Manager, Mr. H. S. Parker.—This week: Messrs. M. Montgomery and E. C. Jazon present Jazon's pantomime, "Dick Whittington." The company includes: Miss Jennie Reeve, Mr. Will Cameo, Mr. William Miller, Mr. Fred Ward, Messrs. Goodall and Knox, Mr. George Belrose, Miss Nellie Lewis, Miss M. De Velin, Miss Mollie Sayers, Mr. Will Penn, Miss Kitty Pearce, Miss Amy Gordon, Miss Ethel Barton, Miss Selina Swift, the Eight Orchards, &c.

PALACE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. J. S. Livesey.—This week (twice nightly): Harry Champion, comic singer; Arthur Clifton, light comedian; Austen Templo, conjurer; the Channings, in musical entertainment; Lennie Hill; Bob and Jennie Leonard; Stuart Cleveland and company, in "A Policeman and a Man"; and Palascope.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

PAVILION.—Proprietors, the Pavilion (Newcastle-on-Tyne), Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. Parham Wells; Musical-Director, Mr. Arthur E. Breakwell.—This week (twice nightly): Lalla Selbini presents "The Lion's Bride," "The Rajah's Dream," &c., &c.; Harry Terry, comedian; Vichy Waters, Scotch comedienne; 40 H.P. Zarmo, juggler; the Great Bosanquet, human violin; Bob Pender's Little Dandies; pictures. Matinée, Tuesday, at 2.30.

PALACE THEATRE. — Managing-Directors, Messrs. T. W. Rowe and E. B. Clark.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. Oswald Cray presents "The Mormon and His Wives." The company includes: Mr. Oswald Cray, Mr. David Blair, Mr. William H. Burton, Mr. Machintosh Clyde, Mr. H. Reynolds, Mr. Harold Stephens, Mr. Leslie Howard, Mr. Leonard H. Rooke, Mr. Morton Wright, Mr. Ernest Duval, Mr. Charles Fields, Miss Helen Lowther, Miss Pattie Dean, Miss Aimée Grattan Clyndes, Miss Mamie Reindeer, and Miss Sybil Hare. Next week: "The Babes in the Wood."

NEWPORT.

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. H. Millburn.—This week (twice nightly): Whit Cunliffe, light comedian; Arthur Young, comedian; Paulhan team of football cyclists; Bert Symes, singing ploughboy; Four Amaranths, novelty dancers; Daisy Sloan, comedienne; Howard and Harris; pictures.

NORTHAMPTON.

NEW THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter T. Simmons; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percy H. Gallagher; Musical-Director, Mr. Albert Heyes.—This week: George Leyton, in military scena, "Lucknow"; Jimmy Walsh, eccentric comedian; Mlle. Sylvesto, society contortionist; Daisy Morell, comedienne; Torino, juggler; Brothers St. John, musical comedians and dancers; James Curwell, violinist; the Lyons Trio, in pantomimic and acrobatic absurdity; and the Bioscope.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Stanley Rogers; Acting-Manager, Mr. Horace Lee; Musical-Director, Mr. W. Cooper.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Fred Le Cren presents "Sinbad the Sailor." The company includes: Miss Adah Le Cren, Miss Lily Hill, Miss Lily Ward, Mr. Leslie Crossley, the Oxos, Mr. James Walters, Mr. A. W. Scott, Miss K. Gannon, Miss M. Hughes, Miss C. Leslie, Miss D. May, Mr. H. Le Cren, Mr. Jos. Ritchie, Miss Dorothy Kemp

BORO' THEATRE.—Proprietors and Managers, Messrs. Black Bros.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percy Gibson; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred Ridsdale.—This week (twice nightly): George Sheldon and Rawdon Buckley's company in the sketch, "Captain Careless, V.C."; Master Percy Gibson, soprano; the Two Lillys, equilibrists; and pictures.

NORTHWICH.

NEW PAVILION.—Proprietors, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes; Manager, Mr. Harry T. Cornish; Musical-Director, Mr. Arthur W. Parry.—This week: Nellie Lummell, comedienne and dancer; Crawford and Wood, the unusual comedians; Billy Nelson, the entertainer; the Two Dollars, a unique pot-pourri, introducing dancing, singing, and acrobatic feats of a high class; the Hungarian Trio, a clever and original musical speciality; also pictures.

NORWICH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Sole Manager, Mr. Fred Morgan.—Mr. Morton Powell's company in "The Two Little Vagabonds" is here this week. The company includes: Mr. Victor Rae, Mr. Francis Everard, Mr. Guy Routh, Mr. H. Heslegrave, Mr. Stanley Field, Mr. Harry Leamar, Mr. Percy Strange, Mr. Francis Amptill, Mr. Timothy Blake, Mr. Johnnie Powell, Mr. Thomas Dyson, Mr. George Gartside, Miss Ethel Kay, Miss Mona Hall, Miss Kate Perowne, Miss Carrie Nino, Miss Dora Diehl, Miss Eva Lumley, and Miss Josie Beltram. Next week: "Find the Woman."

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. E. H. Bostock and F. W. Fitt; Manager, Mr. Councillor F. W. Fitt.—This week (twice nightly): Hano and Fritz, marvellous chimpanzees; Hampton and Bauman; Ray Hartley, the dancing girl; Bert Errol, lady vocalist; Nina Wood; Vascoe, the mad musician; and pictures. Matinée on Saturday at 2.30.

PRINCE OF WALES' PALACE.—The varieties this week are the Lowell Brothers, balancers and comedy musical act; the Tudor Sisters; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

NORWICH ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. G. Fallen.—Here this week are Jelf, Continental mimic; Nelly Billy; and pictures. Continuous performance nightly, with matinée on Saturdays at 2.30.

NOTTINGHAM.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Lessees, Robert Arthur Theatres, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Howard Finney; Musical-Director, Mr. John Armstrong.—"Cinderella" continues to grow in favour, thanks to the all-round efficiency displayed. Whether visited for its scenic effects, its enchanting music and ear-haunting songs, or for the abundance of mirth-provoking fun and merriment, each moment is full of interest, and full reward is obtained.

GRAND THEATRE.—Manager, Mr. Frank Seabrook.—"Dick Whittington" bubbles over with mirth, and three and a half hours of real enjoyment is gained. Needless to say, the house is crowded nightly.

EMPIRE. — Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Ernest Bridgen; Musical-Director, Mr. W. L. Richards.—Jock McKay is a delightful raconteur, who gets home with an easy and attractive method that is truly refreshing; Terry and Lambert are an excellent duo of impersonators and cross-talkers, their quips and cranks being ever ready and genuinely funny; the Craggs prove resourceful in the amusing sketch "Billy"; Marie Kendall, in the "Turkey Trot" is well rewarded; Veronica Brady vocalises spiritedly in several songs; and the Vernon Troupe of xylophonists gain a warm reception; the burlesque of Edwin Lawrence and comical ditties of Alf Chester are provocative of laughter; and Steve McCarthy dances capitally.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Acting-Manager, Mr. Albert C. Duncan; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Stanhope Butler, jun.; Musical-Director, Mr. John Holman.—Chas. T. Aldrich, breezy, versatile, and clever as ever, gives his unique entertainment to the accompaniment of laughter and appreciative applause; the Banzai Family gather in another success in their daring and skilful feats; Violet King shows dainty and expert execution in her violin solos; as knockabout comedians Mailla and Bart keep the fun alive; and the Newhouse and Ward Trio make an excellent impression in their cycling act; Paul Kramere sings with fine taste and expression; the Two Gleams flash out their Scottish wit; and Archie Glen becomes a favourite with his smart patter.

NUNEATON.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE AND HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chisholm Taylor.—This week: Mr. Arthur Hilton and Miss Leila Zillwood's company in "Kin of the Gipsies." The company includes: Messrs. Sidney Bland, S. Leigh Courtney, Arthur Rodney, Bertram Thomas, Ernest Lodge, Jack Fisher, George Inglis, E. A. Peake, Cyril Jarvis, William Hughes, John Rudd, Misses Nina Hardinge, Ethel F. Greene, Emma Litchfield, and Josephine Richards.

VINT'S ELECTRIC PICTUREDROME.—Lessee, Mr. Leon Vint; Resident-Manager, Mr. J. J. Kelly.—This week: Cavallotti Brothers; Helene and Emilon; Little Peter Pan; and pictures.

OLDHAM.

ROYAL THEATRE.—Proprietors, Oldham Empire Theatre of Varieties Co., Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. E. Dottridge; Acting-Manager, Mr. J. Hulme. — This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Richard Nightingale and Walter Bishop present "Aladdin." The company includes: Miss Edna Latonne, Miss Gynne Morgan, Miss

SHAKESPEARE'S ALLEGED OFFSPRING.

"Sir William Davenant," writes Robert Lowe in "Betterton," "was of plebeian descent. His father was a vintner in Oxford, at the Crown Tavern, where the future poet-laureate was born in February, 1606. His mother was a very beautiful woman, and a foolish story arose that Shakespeare, who frequently stayed at the Crown Tavern on his way to and from Warwickshire, was Mrs. Davenant's lover and the father of William. Malone quotes the Aubrey MS. to show that this story was endorsed, if not originally promulgated, by Davenant himself, 'Now Sir William would sometimes, when he was pleasant over a glasse of wine with his most intimate friends (*e.g.* Sam Butler, author of "Hudibras," &c., &c.), say, that it seem'd to him, that he writt with the very spirit that Shakespeare [wrote with], and was contented enough to bee thought his son: he would tell them the story as above.' After a brief schooling, Davenant was made page to the Duchess of Richmond, and was afterwards in the household of Sir Fulke Greville, Lord Brooke. On the death of Ben Jonson, in 1637, Davenant, who had cultivated the friendship of the court, obtained the vacant laurel. In the Civil Wars he fought valiantly for the king, and was knighted; at the end of them he went into exile. Being taken at sea, on his way to Virginia, by a Parliamentary ship, he was brought prisoner to England, and was in imminent danger of execution. But his life was saved by Milton according to one account; by two aldermen of York according to another; and in 1656, as already related, he began to give dramatic performances. At the Restoration no ill will was shown on account of the indulgence given him by Cromwell, and he seems to have been taken into immediate favour by Charles II., by whom he, too, was presented with an income at the expense of the poor players.

"When the two patentees of the Cockpit Theatre in 1660 divided the actors between them, the younger company, which had been under Rhodes, was transferred to Davenant, the only important exception being Kynaston, who remained with the old actors under Killigrew. In Davenant's company Betterton was the leading player, and his name is the first mentioned of the actors who entered into the agreement of Nov. 5, 1660.

"The high contracting parties are 'Sir William Davenant, of London, Kt., of the first part; Thomas Batterton, Thomas Sheppey, Robert Noakes, James Noakes, Thomas Lovell, John Moseley, Cave Underhill, Robert Turner, and Thomas Lilleston, of the second part; and Henry Harris, of the citty of London, painter, of the third part.' All the actors mentioned as companions of Betterton had been members of Rhodes's company at the Cockpit; but Henry Harris is a new name in the transactions of the period. I have no doubt that he is the celebrated actor who, as recorded by Pepys, was afterwards considered Betterton's rival, and of whom there is a beautiful print, in the character of Wolsey, in the Pepysian Library at Cambridge. His Christian name has sometimes been given as Joseph, but this is a mistake, arising from the fact that there was another less important actor of that name. Genest says (i. 387) that his Christian name 'is probably unknown,' but it seems to me beyond any question that this Henry Harris, painter, was the great actor. By the terms of the agreement, Betterton and his comrades were to act at the Salisbury Court Playhouse (or elsewhere) 'untill the said Sir William Davenant shall provide a newe theatre with scenes.' When the new theatre was ready Betterton and his companions were, at a week's notice, to cease playing, to shut up their old house, and 'to remove and joyne with the said Henry Harris, and with other men and women provided or to be provided by the said Sir Wm. Davenant, to performe such tragedies, comedies, playes, and representations in that theatre to be provided by him the said Sir William as aforesaid.'

"At the new playhouse the receipts, after deducting the general expenses, were to be divided into fifteen shares, three of which were to go to the manager, for 'house-rent, buildinge, scaffoldinge, and making of frames for scenes,' and for 'provision of habitts, properties, and scenes, for a supplement of the said theatre.' Of the remaining twelve shares, the expense of 'men hirelinges' (whom we now call by the less picturesque name of 'supers') and other customary expenses being deducted, seven belonged to the manager, 'to mainteine all the women that are to performe or represent women's parts in the aforesaid tragedies, &c.,' and 'in consideration of erectinge and establishinge them to bee a Companie, and his the said Sir Wms. paines and expences to that purpose for many yeeres.' The remaining five shares to be divided among the actors, 'whereof the said Henry Harris is to have an equal share with the greatest proportion in the said five shares or proportions'—a stipulation showing the importance attached to Harris's services. Indeed, he speedily became so popular an actor that he set himself up as the rival, or rather the superior, of Betterton. In July, 1663, he deserted Davenant's company because he was refused a higher salary than any of his companions. He demanded, says Pepys, '£20 for himself extraordinary, more than Betterton, or anybody else, upon every new play, and £10 upon every revive'; and when Davenant declined to accede to his terms, swore he would act there no more. He expected to be allowed to join Killigrew's company, but this the king prevented; and Mr. Harris, after 'resting' for a few months, was glad to rejoin his old comrades. Pepys's gossiping shoemaker told the diarist that 'the fellow grew very proud of late, the King and everybody else crying him up so high, and that above Betterton, he being a more ayery man, as he is indeed.'

"The contrast between these two artists is very interesting even to us now, displaying as they do two types which are familiar to this day. Betterton was above all an artist. Social distinctions came to him, but they were unsought tributes to his greatness in his profession, and his real life was divided between his home and the theatre. But Harris was a man about town. His dressing-room was the rendezvous of the wits, who came there to discuss the play, and, to quote Pepys, 'to assign meetings.' His companions were 'as very rogues as any in the town, who were ready to take hold of every woman that came by them'; and the popular young player was, if one may judge by the unsavoury anecdote of Lady Bennett and her ladies which he retailed to Pepys, as very a rogue as any of them. If Mr. Pepys wanted a companion to go merry-making, if he wanted to see a new picture, Harris was always at his service; and, being an excellent musician, a famous judge of painting, and a man of the most varied knowledge, Pepys delighted in his company. Harris's knowledge of painting is constantly alluded to by Pepys, and this confirms my theory that the 'Henry Harris, painter,' of Davenant's company was the famous actor. The tradition is that Harris had been a seal-engraver; but as this rests on the notoriously untrustworthy authority of Curll's 'History of the Stage,' it need not disturb us."

THE ACTORS' ORPHANAGE.

The following contributions were received for the Actors' Orphanage Fund during the month of December, and the committee gratefully acknowledge them through the medium of this journal:—

The Right Hon. Lord Burnham, £20; Fred Terry, £2 2s.; Philip Merivale, 5s.; Sam Sothern, £2; Mrs. Mayne, £1; Mrs. Gay, £1 1s.; Miss Lilian Braithwaite, £4; Sir Alfred Fripp, part proceeds of Charity Matinée (per Sir George Alexander), £50; C. Aubrey Smith, £1 1s.; Middlesex County Football Association (per Miss Constance Hyem), £2; Playhouse Theatre (tax on free admissions during 1912), per Cyril Maude, £104 14s.; Messrs. H. and M. Rayne, £2 2s.; Mrs. W. Abrahams, £1 1s.; Miss Viva Birkett, 5s.; Miss Marie Illington, £2 2s.; Miss Constance Hyem, £1 1s.

The following amounts were very kindly collected for the Christmas Tree Fund:—Miss Lilian Braithwaite, £8 5s.; Miss Ada Blanche, £4 11s.; Dawson Milward, £2 10s.; Miss Sydney Fairbrother, 15s. 6d.

Penny Collections.—George Edwardes' Répertory (per A. Gifford Stacey), 19s. 4d.; "Sorrows of Satan" (per Miss Lois Esmond), 12s. 4d.; Mr. and Mrs. Percy Brown's Repertory (per Miss Kathleen Magee), 5s. 7d.; John Dunbar's Répertory (per Miss Ethel Vinroy), 6s. 4d.; "Power of the King" (per Miss Madge Douglas), 7s.: "Bunty" North (per F. C. Pool), 7s.; "His Child Wife" (per Miss Marion Wakeford), 5s. 3d.; "Mousmé" (per Miss Daisy Revett), £2 4s. 5d.; "Sunshine Girl" (per Miss Dorothy Fane), £1 3s. 1d.; "Ben Hur" (per Miss Marjorie Chard), 15s. 5d.; "The Miracle" (per Miss Betty Stannard), 2s. 6d.; "Sign of the Cross" (per Martin Palmer), 12s. 9d.; "The Cingalee" (per Miss Ruth Trafford), 10s.; "Princess Caprice" (per Miss Cicely Courtneidge), £3 14s. 3d.; "Girl Who went Astray" (per Miss Doris Brookes), 4s.; "Royal Divorce" (per Miss Violet Ellicott), 6s. 3d.; "Hindle Wakes" (Max Allen—per Miss Kate Osborne), 3s.; "Rutherford and Son" (per Miss Marie Ault), 2s.; "Fanny's First Play" (per Miss Marie Rignold), 10s. 6d.; "Butterfly on the Wheel" (per J. J. Bartlett), 5s. 1d.; Stanley Rogers' Co. (per Miss Cissie Bellamy), 10s.; Lyceum Theatre Co. (per Miss Blanche Stanley), £1; "London Outcast" (per Miss Belle Winter), 4s.; "Wild Girl of the Forest" (per Miss Nancy Roberts), 6s.; "Charley's Aunt" (per Miss Harriet Trench), 10s. 6d.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Sir,—Into your article in yesterday's "Era" on Cyril Maude and charity a small error has crept. In speaking of the Actors' Orhanage Mr. Maude is made by your interviewer to say:—"To the late Sir Augustus Harris we owe our initiation. He lent us his house and gardens at Elm Lodge, Finchley," &c.

As a matter of fact my mother, Lady Harris, lent our house, The Elms, Avenue-road, Regent's Park, in the summer of 1903, some six years after my father's—Sir Augustus—death in 1896.—Yours faithfully, FLORENCE GLOSSOP-HARRIS.

37, Gunterstone-road, West Kensington.
Jan. 5, 1913.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Mr. A. A. Strong, LL.B., has reached a third edition, and gives in simple language such parts of the law as relate to subjects with which the profession is concerned.—"The Financier."

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at "The Era" Offices, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.—"Referee." May 15, 1910.

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—"Star."

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at "The Era" Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

The National Association of Theatrical Employees forwarded on the 3rd inst. to each management of London and suburban theatres, where the Association's formulated demands have not been conceded, a copy of the resolution passed at the recent mass meeting asking for an increase of 6d. per man per performance for all scene-shifters, electric-light operators, property men, fly men, and all connected with the setting of the scenes and the illumination of the scenery. The effect of this proposal being carried into effect would be to raise the minimum wage from two shillings to half-a-crown.

The Royal Opera House, the London Opera House, the Drury Lane Theatre, Adelphi, Empire, Alhambra, and the Shaftesbury, a third of the houses concerned, are already paying the increased rate. From the other theatres no definite refusal has been received.

A question has arisen as to the reasonable duration of a performance. In places like Drury Lane and the Lyceum the performances extend from four to five hours, and the union hold that in such circumstances the rate of pay should be proportionately larger to the extra length of the performance, taking three hours as the maximum period of time for 2s. 6d. The society are negotiating individually with the managers in the matter, and not with the Society of West-End Theatre Managers.

Mr. William Johnson, the general secretary of the Employees' Society, says: "We are fully determined to get this increase, but we should regret very much having to take extreme measures to do so. We have funds, however, sufficient for the purpose, and as we are affiliated to the General Federation of Trade Unions, we should be supported from their funds in the event of any rupture."

PLAYERS OF THE PERIOD.

MR. REGINALD E. BESANT.

On leaving the Royal College of Music Mr. Reginald Besant was engaged to play two character parts in the "Eternal City" on tour when Sir Herbert Tree first sent the piece into the provinces in 1903. This engagement lasted a year and a half, after which Mr. Besant understudied during the run of "The Prayer of the Sword" at the Adelphi Theatre. Valuable experience was gained in the Compton Comedy Company, in which the young actor played a large répertoire of plays, including "David Garrick," "The School for Scandal," "She Stoops to Conquer," "The Rivals," "Money," "New Men and old Acres," "To-morrow," etc. During his two years with Mr. Compton Mr. Besant played juvenile and character parts, both large and small, besides helping with the stage-management. In his first year with the C.C.C., he played such parts as John in "Garrick," a Rough Fellow, Roger Seaming, and Sir Charles Marlow in "She Stoops to Conquer," Snake and Careless in "The School for Scandal," Fagin in "The Rivals," Lord Glossmore in "Money," and

MR. REGINALD E. BESANT.

the old character Butler in "New Men and Old Acres."

After fulfilling a year's engagement as Harding, the secretary in Sir George Alexander's company of "His House in Order," Mr. Besant returned to Mr. Compton for his London season at the St. James's Theatre in the summer of 1908, acting as assistant-stage-manager, and also understudying Mr. Henry Ainley, and playing Careless in the revival of "The School for Scandal." He was to have gone on tour again with the Compton Company in the autumn, but owing to a severe illness had to abandon the engagement at the last moment. After one or two minor engagements Mr. Besant was engaged by Miss Mary Moore for a small juvenile part in Mr. Hubert Henry Davis's comedy, "Lady Epping's Lawsuit," produced at the Criterion Theatre, and also understudied the leading part played by Mr. Sam Sothern.

A motor tour with "Dolly Reforming Herself," in which he played Mathew Baron and also did the stage-management, followed. Mr. Besant found the tour a unique and interesting experience, though somewhat anxious and trying at times. His next part was Wittle, the valet, in "When Knights Were Bold," under Mr. Welch's management. He then jumped from farce to drama, and played the juvenile lead, Prince Paul Howard Alexis, in Seton Merriman's dramatised novel, "The Sowers," afterwards going back to farce and playing one of the two juvenile parts in "The Man from Mexico" with Mr. Stanley Cooke. Mr. Besant is now engaged for the forthcoming production at the Haymarket.

ACTORS' ASSOCIATION.

Minutes of the Council meeting held at 32, Regent-street, on Tuesday, Jan. 7, at 2.30 p.m.

Present: Mr. John Mortimer (in the chair), Mr. H. W. Mote (hon. solicitor), Messrs. F. J. Arlton, Fredk. Morland, Fredk. James, Arthur Dennis, Adnam Sprange, William Devereux, James Gelderd, C. F. Collings, Murri Moncrieff, Clarence Derwent, Miss Laura Leycester, and Mr. D. Young (secretary).

The secretary read a letter from a member with reference to a complaint against a manager, and the hon. solicitor received instructions.

The secretary received instructions re another member's complaint.

The secretary read a letter from Sir Herbert Tree informing the Council that he would be pleased to grant the use of his theatre for the annual general meeting to be held at His Majesty's Theatre on the 11th prox.

The hon. solicitor reported on six cases, and received instructions to act.

A discussion arose with reference to the bi-monthly meeting, and the secretary read the minutes of the same, and the hon. solicitor's advice was asked as to whether the association could be turned into a club, but as he explained it was contrary to the articles of association, Mr. Devereux moved, seconded by Mr. James, that Mr. Mote be asked to give his opinion, the same to be placed on the notice board in the rooms of the association.

The Finance Committee's report was read by Mr. Sprange, and on the motion of Mr. James, seconded by Mr. Moncrieff, adopted.

The Ball Committee's report was tendered by Mr. Mortimer, who stated matters were progressing satisfactorily and inviting application for tickets. Mr. William Devereux was elected on the committee, and the next meeting will be held on Friday at 3.30 p.m.

Mr. Arthur Dennis promised to attend on Friday afternoon as acting secretary.

Elections: Philip Merivale, Viva Birkett, Phyllis Birkett, Letty Paxton, and E. Evan Thomas.

Reinstatement: Albert E. Raynor.

Nominations: Marie Leigh, Alice M. Howe, Douglas M. Prout, Oliver C. Johnson, P. Hawksworth Dix, and Dorris Murray.

Mr. Derwent moved and Mr. Dennis seconded that the secretary be asked to write a letter to the "Stage," "The Era," and "Referee" on behalf of the Council, pointing out the advantages of joining the Actors' Association during the first month of the year. Agreed to unanimously.

Mr. Derwent moved that in future all requests for amplification of the minutes be made in writing to the secretary, seconded by Mr. Arlton, and agreed to unanimously.

Mr. Derwent gave notice of motion re National Theatre.

Mr. Max Allen has lent Mr. McNally, who has been playing in his touring company of "Hindle Wakes," to take part in Mr. Arthur Bourchier's new production.

Mr. Leslie Hughes, the Lyceum acting-manager, has now happily quite recovered from his recent serious operation, and left the Charing Cross Hospital on Friday for Brighton. He hopes to return to the Lyceum by the end of the month. Mr. Hughes desires to thank the surgeons and nursing staff of the Charing Cross Hospital for their care and attention, and his numerous friends for their kind inquiries.

SPECIALS FROM THE PROVINCES.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

"ALL SQUARE."

A Western Play, in One Act, by Captain Frank H. Shaw, Produced at the Opera House, York, on Jan. 6.

Mike Draylott ..... Mr. Percy Gammon
Jake Thomas ..... Mr. Albert Sinclair
The Innocent ..... Mr. T. N. Walter
Surton ..... Mr. Naylor Grimson
Colash ..... Miss Bessie Walters
Hiram ..... Mr. Arthur H. Cann
Kate Briscow ..... Miss Ethel Bracewell

This sketch of Western life has just the amount of pathos and humour about it which is requisite to ensure success, and its reception during the week by large audiences has been so enthusiastic that it is easy to predict a similar state of things in other towns visited during the tour of this clever trifle. Briefly the plot is as follows: The Innocent, a shady character, who as described as never having had a chance, accidentally shoots a man during a quarrel over a game at cards, the bullet missing Surton, for whom it was intended. The Innocent is condemned to be hanged by the crowd who are habitués of the saloon, and is only saved from death by the timely arrival of Kate Briscow, who, with the assistance of Jake Thomas, brings about this desirable state of things by a novel and exciting device. The Innocent departs, and Kate is left alone in the saloon. He returns to thank her for saving him, and is again in peril owing to the sudden reappearance of Surton, bent on revenge. The Innocent hides in an ante-room, from which he emerges in time to save Kate from a brutal attack made upon her by Surton. In the struggle both men are mortally wounded, but Kate's life and honour are saved, and the play ends "all square."

Miss Ethel Bracewell, a sound actress, makes a most delightful Kate; Mr. T. N. Walter, as The Innocent, gives a splendid character study, natural throughout; and in the heavy rôle of Surton Mr. Naylor Grimson submits a finished performance. Mr. Percy Gammon introduces much acceptable humour into the rôle of the Sheriff, and Mr. Albert Sinclair is clever and makes a picturesque Jake Thomas. Other parts are ably played by Miss Bessie Walters and Mr. Arthur H. Cann.

"ELDERS' HOURS."

Scotch Comedy Sketch, by Robert J. Maclennan, Produced on Monday night, Jan. 6, at the King's Theatre, Portsmouth.

Sam ..... Mr. George Tawde
Bella ..... Miss Eva McRoberts

Happy in conception, admirably written, directly appealing to the lovers of genuine pawky Scotch humour, of which no more clever and artistic exponents could be found than the above artistes, the original Rab and Teenie of "Bunty Pulls the Strings" fame, the first performance was a gratifying success. It opens with Bella working at the mangle, and apparently in great concern owing to someone being missing. Presently her Uncle Sam enters. He is requested to take his turn at the mangle, and the missing object is the topic of conversation; he never had stopped out so late before, all the public houses were searched with futile result, and the Lady at the Mission Hall knew nothing of his whereabouts. Some keenly interesting dialogue is introduced amidst the search. Finally Bella puts on her shawl and is going out with the intention of herself searching, when, to the satisfaction of everyone, the mystery is solved by her speedy return with a tom cat in her arms.

"AN UNKNOWN QUANTITY."

Farcical Comedy, by Lady Kathleen Hastings, Produced at the Conservative Hall, Nuneaton, on Thursday, Jan. 9.

Lady Flexborough ..... The Countess of Huntingdon
Hon. Muriel Welmingham ..... Lady Nora Hastings
Hon. Sylvia Welmingham ..... Lady Marian Hastings
Mrs. Roger Clifton ..... Miss Enid Fisher
Mrs. Allendale ..... Lady Kathleen Hastings
Lord Flexborough ..... Sir Harry Mainwaring, Bart.
Hon. Philip Welmingham ..... Viscount Hastings
Roger Clifton ..... Sir Edward Naylor Leyland.
Capt. John Caryl ..... Mr. Douglas Beech
Hugo Wharncliffe ..... Mr. Henry T. Rice
Biffin ..... Mr. A. C. Tor

The action of the play takes place at Welmingham Towers, the time being the present. Act I. opens with the hall at Welmingham Towers. Lady Flexborough has given an invitation to her cousin and his wife (Mr. and Mrs. Roger Clifton) and other friends, including Mr. Wharncliffe, to spend a few days with herself and family at the Towers. Lady Flexborough hopes this will be a favourable opportunity for her daughter Muriel to make a match with Mr. Wharncliffe, a rich soap factory proprietor, of whom she is apparently very fond. Mrs. Allendale, an American widow, makes a call rather unexpectedly at the Towers, only to find Mr. Wharncliffe present, and suggests that she may make a further call shortly. Mr. Wharncliffe, a favourite with the women, favourably impresses Muriel, but he is also popular with the family. Mention must be made of the relationship between Lord Flexborough and his cousin, Mrs. Clifton, who exercises her fascinations on the former.

Act II. opens a few days afterwards, the scene being the garden at the Towers. Behind the scenes a game of tennis is being played by Muriel, Mr. and Mrs. Clifton, Mrs. Allendale, Lord Flexborough, and Mr Wharncliffe. Here Mr. Wharncliffe is much in evidence. He is a favourite with Lady Flexborough, her daughter Muriel, and Mrs. Allendale. He becomes so popular, indeed, that he is on the point of accepting proposals from both Muriel and Mrs. Allendale, and hopes shortly to report good news to Lady Flexborough. However, Captain Caryl appears on the scene, and asks Muriel to marry him. She has, however, heard that he is flirting with his first cousin, and contrives to make him jealous by telling him she is about to receive a proposal elsewhere. He leaves rather disappointed, but tells her that he will attend a ball which is being held shortly, when he will again make his proposal, and hopes then to have a definite answer. Wharncliffe reports his good news to Mrs. Clifton, who suggests that he shall make a match with her. Much fun is caused by the children of Lady Flexborough (Sylvia and Philip) interfering in the quiet moments.

In Act III., a few days later, a ball is being given at the Towers. Lord Flexborough shows a decided affection for his cousin, Mrs. Clifton, who absolutely scorns her husband. Mrs. Allendale successfully contrives to arrange a match between Captain Caryl and Muriel, in order that she may capture Wharncliffe. Finally, however, Wharncliffe is left in the lurch, when the children (who are told they are too young to take part in the dancing) appear in the boudoir. Wharncliffe becomes a favourite of Sylvia, and a little party is held in the boudoir consisting of Wharncliffe, Philip Welmingham, Sylvia, and Mr. Clifton. Wharncliffe, thinking he is forsaken by Muriel, disdains Mrs. Allendale and makes love to Sylvia, and finally proposes and is accepted by her. And Mrs. Allendale, who has conspired to make a match for herself, is left in the cold. All the company play their parts admirably. The author, Lady Kathleen Hastings, a daughter of the Earl and Countess of Huntingdon, has written a piece full of up-to-date and smart lines, and it is very amusing throughout.

THE PROMPTER'S BOX.

In the days of Shakespeare, the prompt box was always fixed just at the first entrance on the left side of the stage in the wing. There were two reasons for this, the first being that the man actors almost invariably had their dressing-rooms on the left side of the stage and the ladies on the right—the warmer and more comfortable part of the "behind-the-scenes" portion of the house. For a reason not quite explainable, it will be found that almost invariably the passage from the stage door leads you direct on to the stage, and the prompter's box on the left. P.S. (prompt side) is a well-known side, for the entrance of the star actor or actress, because right exactly left—to be accurate—that point immediately commands the attention of the audience. Turn quickly to the right, and you will find your left eye focussing all you want to see with more accurate precision. Hence, apparently, we have the reason for the prompt box being fixed on the left—that is, right from the audience. I have only very rarely come across a prompt box on the right side; that is to say, not in its recognised place.

Mr. Arthur Bourchier, ever full of innovations and new ideas, recently revived the modern, Continental, quaint absurdity of having the prompt box in the middle of the front part of the stage at the Garrick Theatre, in association with the footlights. To the ordinary English playgoer nothing could be more irritating than this black rabbit hutch, which obstructs the view and distresses those "in front," for everybody knows that a hidden ogre holds sway inside because the actor is doubtful of his lines. When the prompter is in the first entrance of the wings no one is really conscious of his existence. And nobody who has paid for a night's enjoyment wants to be cognisant of his presence.

To introduce the "old prompt box" seems to imply that it is an old English habit to have the prompter obtruding himself in close proximity to the auditorium, instead of keeping him at a respectful distance and away out of sight, where the prompter can be properly heard by those who need his assistance, and where he can indicate anything of change that may be necessary during the performance, through the hints and suggestions of members of the staff and the players, who may be able to detect any little slip or discrepancy accidentally occurring during the few hours' traffic of the boards.

Quite recently it was recorded that in Paris, of course, the prompter, sitting in the front, recites the entire play, keeping two words ahead of the performer. It is a terribly trying ordeal for an English player, and when Miss Eleanor Calhoun went to Rouen to play with Coquelin père the prompter nearly spoilt her performance. At the end of the first act she rushed to Coquelin's room in despair, and demanded to know what on earth "that man in the footlights" was up to. One can sympathise with the actress. Let us consider a moment. A French play; no music between the acts; nothing to gaze at but an elongated coal-scuttle in the very centre of your view; three frightful and disturbing knocks to let you know the curtain is going to rise, and it chills one to the marrow. Nothing but iciness and despair, and then more or less bloodthirstiness to carry on the action of the tragedy.

Where does the notion come from that the prompter's box in the centre of the orchestra was ever an institution in England? How can the proposition be referred to as the "old prompt box"? It has never been known in England, except upon rare occasions, and then chiefly as a concession to foreign fancies—chiefly French—the German stage knows it not.

In Grand Opera we are aware that it is almost the invariable custom for the prompter's box to be in the middle of the "floats," or footlights, chiefly to assist the singer with his words, for although the lyric may go, it is very seldom that the music slips from his memory. But in grand opera one does not look for the finesse of acting that is expected in comedy or drama, and one would imagine that a bogey sitting in front would distract the cleverest actor and ruin his finest intentions. That is, unless the actor's art is to be reduced to the commonplace parrot-level of mere imitation and mechanical repetition.

Dutton Cook, than whom few men had more knowledge of the play and player-folk, in his "Book of the Play" pungently says:—"One of the first scraps of information acquired by the theatrical student relates to the letters P.S. and O.P. Otherwise he might perhaps have some difficulty in comprehending the apparently magnetic attraction which one particular side of the proscenium has for so many of our players. We say our players advisedly, for the position of the prompter is different on the foreign stage. Abroad, and, indeed, during alien and lyrical performances in this country, he is hidden in a sort of gipsy tent in front of the deck of the conductor. The accommodation provided for him is limited enough. Little more than his head can be permitted to emerge from the hole cut for him in the stage." All the same, for operatic performances the "gypsy scuttle" may be recommended, and in the old days when an actor had to play nearly a dozen parts a week, the "prompt box in front" would no doubt have been of some advantage, both to the actor and the audience. Nowadays the comedian is presumed to be letter perfect in his part, though perhaps after many performances and through not running through his "scrip" again now and then, he might have to walk to the wings to seek the prompter's assistance, but in most cases, having mastered the benevolence of the gag, he is able to "prompt" himself. Still, the prompter years ago, with his assistant call boy, held high powers, if not favour, behind the scenes, and the actor usually relied upon them both. In this connection a word from George Colman, who wrote, amongst many things, "The Heir-at-Law," which still fitfully holds the stage, and who also for a long time was the Reader of Plays to the Lord Chamberlain, may not be out of place, especially as he added a word to the language:—

The prompter's boy, Messieurs, must stand
Near the stage door, close at the prompter's hand,
Holding a nomenclature that's numerical,
Which tallies with the book promptorical.

In those days the prompter's life was full of anxieties, while his never-ending duties were full of devious and arduous responsibilities. He was always required to be at the beck and call of everybody, and to be ready to ring up and down at the proper moments, or woe betide him. Against the centre box there is one artistic point, however, to be considered. The prompter at the wings need never, by the audience, be seen or heard, and so the illusion of the parable or the fable is never disturbed. But with the prompter patently en evidence all the time, the real passion, humour, or pathos of the drama are all dislocated; the effect most desirable is shattered and scattered from stalls to pit right up to the gallery, and the real intention lost for ever.

Once at the Lyceum Theatre, when the prompter was Joseph Derrick, who afterwards wrote "Confusion" and other plays, he ran down the curtain too soon, and so spoiled the late Sir Henry Irving's final scene.

Irving strode to the prompt box and demanded to know why in the world Derrick had done it.

"Because I was a damned fool," was the reply. And Irving walked away muttering:—

"It's saved him—it's saved him."

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

DOROTHY WARD,

BRITAIN'S MOST POPULAR and YOUNGEST PRINCIPAL BOY.

VIDE PRESS and PUBLIC.

ANOTHER TRIUMPH
At COURT THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.

Read the Opinion of the Liverpool Press:—

MISS WARD'S TRIUMPH.

Miss Dorothy Ward gives her **colleagues** a **rousing lead. No one** was **ever better adapted for the part of principal "boy."** She has not only **striking beauty** and **splendid stage presence in her favour** but **has winning vivacity, resourcefulness** and **a rich voice** which **she knows how to use.** On Saturday night she was not only **repeatedly recalled.** but had bouquets and other gifts showered on her in embarrassing number.—*Evening Echo.*

A more competent company of artistes than that engaged for "Tommy Tucker" it would be hard to find. Miss Dorothy Ward is obviously a **prime favourite.** On Saturday night she had quite an ovation when she stepped on to the stage, and the number of gifts in the form of bouquets, baskets of flowers, chocolates, and other souvenirs, handed up to her in the course of the performance must have constituted a "first-night" record. They numbered at least a score. Miss Ward is not only endowed with a **particularly fascinating presence,** but she **acts** with **intelligence** and **she sings** with a **sweetness** and an **artistic finish far too rare among principal "boys."** She has several good songs, the best of which is "My Heart is with you to-night, Love," sung very feelingly in Scene VI. Miss Ward also joins with her husband (Mr. Shaun Glenville) in a droll duet, "You Beautiful Doll."—*Express.*

Miss Dorothy Ward, who takes the part of Tommy Tucker, **was especially successful,** and if she continues as she has begun will be surfeited with flowers and chocolates. Miss Ward introduces a **pleasing enthusiasm** into her work. This was strikingly exemplified on Saturday when, at the end of the performance, she kissed the stage manager, to the great excitement of the audience. She has also a very nice voice, and her songs, **especially "My Heart is with you to-night, Love," created a furore.** Her duet with the Baron, "You Beautiful Doll," also showed considerable power of humour. Her frequent changes of costume added to the gaiety of the evening. —*Dispatch.*

Miss Dorothy Ward jumped into the favour of the audience at a bound. As Tommy **she gives a "boy" performance** of quite **exceptional worth, charm,** and **dash.** She **sings artistically,** using her pleasant voice with skill and sustained effect, notably so in "My Heart is with you to-night," which was encored on Saturday until the audience "got it off" and sang the swingy refrain for the delighted artiste. Miss Ward was just as successful in her racy rendering of "There's an easy, breezy way about a sailor." Fifteen bouquets were presented to Miss Dorothy Ward during the evening, not to mention a round dozen huge boxes of chocolates.—*Post.*

There is "Tommy" himself, in the person of Miss Dorothy Ward, a charming comedienne, who is certainly able to sing. Miss Dorothy Ward as the principal "boy" achieved **instant** and **general favour** with the entire house on Saturday night. An artiste with **unusual personal attractions,** she possesses also a **good voice** and a **fervent gaiety** of **manner** which **is infectious.** Her songs were invariably encored at the opening performance, and she was simply "snowed under" with bouquets and gifts of boxes of chocolates.—*Courier.*

Dorothy Ward.

PROVINCIAL PANTOMIMES.

"GOODY TWO SHOES" AT CROYDON.

The third of the series of pantomimes at the Croydon Hippodrome was received with much favour on Monday last. It is entitled "Goody Two Shoes," and is presented by Mr. J. Albert's company of smart talent. It is certainly an exceptionally tuneful, amusing, and well-staged production. Mr. Fred Morile is responsible for the book, and the story is told in an invigorating manner. Mr. William Gregory is deserving of much credit for his share in the musical items, and he proves himself an efficient conductor. Dainty dresses have been provided, and a shapely chorus is a satisfactory feature. Magnificent scenery has also been supplied by Charles Douglas, which is much admired. Mr. E. D. Nicholls is a host in himself as Sir Goosie Drake, M.D., a quack. There is never a dull moment whilst he is in view, and his fun is exhilarating. He is always in a happy mood, and never at a loss to introduce business which goes with a swing. Another part of merit is the Lady Duckie Drake of Mr. Eric Campbell. He is simply immense in the character, contributing his full quota and fairly eclipsing himself. Messrs. Somers and Walmer enact the two pages, Alexander and Maximilian, in true knockabout style, their patter and novel jokes being noteworthy items. Mr. Leo Main is full of vigour and natural wit as the cobbler, Snobbie Way. He pushes the rôle well to the front, and makes every one of his lines tell. A first-rate rendering of Angelina Wax is given by Mr. Wab Wilkinson, a dame of the order that never offends, but yet is cleverly conceived and brimming over with subtle mirth. Mr. J. Derick shows dramatic ability as Solar, the Demon Taximan.

It will be seen that good comedians are well in evidence, but the ladies are by no means behindhand. In the title-rôle we have frolicsome Miss Maudie Francis, a little lady who has won all hearts by her captivating ways. Her Teddy Bear song and dance, and "By-by Land," with chorus of girl dancers, were cordially received. We can compliment her upon an exceedingly artistic performance. Miss Dora Sephton makes a tasteful and dashing principal boy as Vivian, the Duke of Phulnana, and she dresses the part to every advantage. Her ditties are given with judgment; we would particularly mention the song and dance, "Little shepherdess," with Goody. She also is a favourite with the audience. Miss Violet Beatrice renders sterling services in the rôle of Betty, and an item of hers which would be hard to beat is "You beautiful doll," with full girl chorus and dancers. Miss Beatrice is an expert dancer, and has a pretty stage presence. A neat little lady is Miss Dolly Venton as Electra, the good fairy. She speaks her lines with good effect, and one of the big hits of the whole pantomime is her perfect imitation of Miss Gertie Gitana in coon song and dance. We need only add that there is nothing in the production with which to find fault, and it was received with unstinted applause throughout.

"HUMPTY DUMPTY" AT DUNDEE.

The first pantomime at Her Majesty's Theatre, Dundee, under the new management of Mr. F. W. Wyndham, made a most auspicious start on Monday, 6th inst. All the elements that contribute to thorough success are there commingled by the master-hand of Mr. J. Hickory Wood, who has compiled a most entertaining book. Mr. Wyndham has secured the services of that past-master of pantomime production, Mr. Tom B. Davis, and that he has succeeded in giving an exceptionally brilliant and splendid production was the unanimous verdict of the first-nighters.

The plot, following orthodox lines, receives its initial impetus from conflict between the respective wills of the Spirits of Good and Evil. The maledictions of the Spirit of Ambition bring about the downfall of the Egg from its perch on the wall, and from the broken shell Humpty Dumpty is released. There then ensues a battle between the Spirits of Ambition and Generosity as to who shall have mastery over this luckless sprite. This feud, in true pantomime fashion, is protracted throughout the entertainment, and results eventually in a victory for the spirit represented by Fairy Queen. Humpty, however, embarks on his mundane career invested with the power of bringing to pass his lightest wish by "mental energy" alone. This proves of vast advantage to him, particularly as he is brought into frequent contact with the real hero, Rudolph. King Sollumm has never been known to smile, and offers as a reward to anyone who can provoke him to laughter a substantial money prize and the hand of his beautiful daughter, the Princess Aurora. Humpty by his uncanny powers wins outright, but the Princess, being devoted to Rudolph, refuses to countenance his suit. Another "competition" is, therefore, arranged. It is unnecessary further to follow the trend of events. Humpty at length exhausts his power of "wishing." This gives Rudolph his opportunity, and in the end everything is all right and everybody "lives happily ever after."

The scenery is superb, several stage pictures of æsthetic beauty being presented. There are twelve scenes in all, the best of the first portion being the Palace Courtyard, a fine, bold piece of stage setting; the End of the Pier, which has a glorious wealth of colouring, its picturesque beauty being enhanced by the dainty costumes of the chorus; and the big transformation scene which concludes the first part, the Coral Grottos, to describe which the superlative stop must be pulled full out. Here all the subdued glories of the South Pacific coral grottos are revealed. It is a perfect triumph of stagecraft, and the artist must be highly complimented for the beauty and artistic taste displayed in every detail. The best scenes in the second portion are Muddleton Junction, an effective set, and the Land of Heartease, a beautiful setting of glowing colour, wherein are represented pansies in luxuriant profusion, the scheme being continued in the dresses of the chorus. Mesdames Alias, Booth, and assistants are responsible for the dresses, and they do them the utmost credit. The music, which is always tuneful and appropriate, has been composed and arranged by Mr. George Chapman and Mr. Tom Lewis, while the ballets have been arranged by Miss Ina Alston. Mr. F. Leslie Moreton and Mr. Guyton Heath, under whose personal supervision the pantomime was produced, must be warmly complimented on the completeness of their work.

Mr. Davis has been happy in his choice of principals. Miss Minnie Love (Rudolph) makes an ideal principal boy, and sent the audience into transports of delight with her versatile and vivacious performance. In addition to being gifted with an excellent voice she sings her various numbers tastefully and with a verve and go that carries everything before her. She scored heavily in "Follow the footprints in the snow" and "Oh, you beautiful doll." In "Jenny MacGregor," a song with a fine lilting refrain, she made a decided hit, appearing in Highland dress, in which she makes a dashing and picturesque appearance. A more delightful principal girl could not be desired than Miss Nancy Buckland, whose pretty mannerisms, expressions and dainty dancing won well-merited applause. Endowed with much charm and vivacity, her work is as refined as it is artistic, and throughout the pantomime she contributed considerably to the enjoyment of the audience. She took particularly well in her rendition of "Keep on swinging me, Charlie," and in "I do like you, Susie," and for the exceptionally dainty dance with which it was supplemented she was deservedly honoured by a treble encore. She also shared the honours with Miss Love in a charmingly rendered duet, called "If I belonged to you." Misses Ada Davidson and Minnie Blanchard, the second boy and girl respectively, are a clever couple, and the former made a decided hit with a breezy ditty, entitled "There's something in the seaside air." The comedians are a happy band, and all work well together, the chief honours going to Mr. Stratton Mills as the Dame. His humour is refreshingly spontaneous, and he displays all the resource of a clever and experienced comedian, keeping the house continually on the laugh. He has two ludicrous ditties in "The old cracked basin" and "Tra-la-la," and by reason of his antics is irrepressible. He had an able colleague in Mr. Edmond Russell as King Sollumm. His songs, "Cupid" and "Who were you with last night?" both sung in really humorous style, took immensely, and, along with Mr. Mills, was encored for a comical topical duet to the tune of "Comin' through the rye." Mr. George Danvers as the elusive Humpty Dumpty was a big favourite, his revival of the old trap-door business being quite a feature. Mr. Fred Seymour gave a capable interpretation of the part of Bison Bob (a circus proprietor). The daring and original acrobatic eccentricities of the Werds Brothers proved a very popular feature of the show, and at the conclusion of their exhibition they received quite an ovation. Miss Jessie Forbes as Claribel (the Spirit of Generosity) spoke her lines with clear enunciation, and contributed an exquisite rendering of that beautiful ballad, "Take me back to the garden of love," which was rapturously redemanded. Mr. Murray Ashford as Soaro (the Spirit of Ambition) displayed a voice of quite operatic quality. An extra special word of commendation is due to the Alston Octette, whose graceful dancing lent charm and animation to the various scenes. The chorus is a large one, and in vivacity, good looks, and singing, all that could be desired. The augmented orchestra did full justice to the tuneful music, under the skilful bâton of Mr. Tom Lewis. The manager of the company is Mr. A. J. Nicholls, a gentleman who thoroughly knows his business.

"SINDBAD THE SAILOR" AT HASTINGS.

An enthusiastic audience greeted Messrs. Murray King and Clark's gorgeous pantomime on Monday evening at the Gaiety Theatre, Hastings. The incidents of the old story most faithfully adhered to are those concerning the Old Man of the Sea—a part well played by Mr. Will Raglan—the Valley of Diamonds, and the carrying off of Sindbad by the roc—an incident particularly well contrived. The author is Mr. J. Hickory Wood, who has written some sparkling dialogue, Mr. Wilson G. Dibble is responsible for the composition and arrangement of the music, and the scenery by Messrs. Schmidtz and R. Berre is really beautiful, particularly The Coral Cave and The Diamond Valley, though all the drop scenes included deserve praise. Mr. J. D. Hunter's return to the Hastings boards, with which for so many years he was associated, was welcomed by hearty and prolonged applause. He played the part of Mrs. Sindbad, and his clever patter and humorous songs were keenly enjoyed. He sang "Here's to England, dear old England," with great success, and his duet, "Tral-lal-la," with King Tibbles, played by Mr. Harold Vincent, was particularly clever. Miss Daisy Bartholomew makes a handsome Sindbad, and Miss Violet Bartholomew is an alluring Badoura. The couple have some excellent songs and dances, including the pretty duet and dance. "I shall never cease to love you," and Sindbad's song, "There's an easy, breezy way about a sailor," was pleasantly sung, the subsequent hornpipe being received with applause. Miss Violet Hammerstein and Mr. Ernest Hammerstein as Zoe and Hindbad supply much comical business in song and dance, and the former's football song and chorus created a deal of merriment, especially among the juvenile part of the audience. Miss Ethel Mayne, who plays Crystal, the good fairy, is a clever little lady, who sings and dances pleasingly. Some clever fooling and humorous patter is supplied by Mr. George Courtenay as Captain Kydd, the master of the Merry Matilda, and the Swansons, as Ben Bunk and Sanders McBobstay, mate and bosun, and the remainder of the company are all good. Some excellent dancing by Miss Alma Robson is to be seen, and the beautifully arranged ballets are a feature of the pantomime. In the second part Lord John Sanger's performing sea lions are introduced, a turn which is greatly appreciated. The pantomime is capitally staged, and the dresses by Clarkson's and Miss Annie Bowers are superb. Taken altogether, all concerned are to be congratulated on the production.

"ALADDIN" AT READING.

Mr. Charles Constant's pantomime of "Aladdin" was produced at the Royal County Theatre, Reading, on Monday evening with complete success. The leading features of the pantomime are popular songs, graceful dances, humorous situations, and clever local and topical hits. It is divided into two parts, the scenery being very picturesque and tasteful. The sets deserving special mention include The Market Place, The Imperial Baths, The Enchanted Cave, Exterior of the Palace, and The Reception Hall of the Palace. The well-known tale is followed on familiar lines, and is supported by a very capable company. In the title-rôle Miss Florence Hersee distinguishes herself by a charming delineation of the character; Miss Daisy Lake is a lively Pekoe; Miss Madge Christopher is a dainty Princess Badroulbadour; Miss Edith Adeson is a vivacious Pitti-Sing; Mr. Louie Holt is very diverting as the Widow Twankey; Mr. Bert Leighton, the Hebrew impersonator, acts cleverly as Abanazar; Mr. Martin D. Pitts as Ski Hi is a fine vocalist; Mr. Tom Fancourt is eccentric as So Long; Mr. J. Schofield, jun., works very hard in the dual rôles of Wishee Washee and Hasrac, and his dances with Miss Hersee are vociferously encored; Messrs. Harlin and Hanlon, as the Policemen, are capital comedians. Specialities are introduced by Miss Florence Hersee and Mr. J. Schofield, junr., Harlin and Hanlon, Miss Millie Fancourt and Mr. Tom Fancourt, and Wyko, assisted by Miss Lily Ellis. The ballet and chorus are excellent, and the augmented orchestra, under the capable leadership of Mr. Eric Mareo, acquit themselves well. The pantomime is drawing crowded houses, special matinées being given on Wednesday and Saturday.

"ALADDIN" AT RICHMOND.

No one need accuse Mr. Edward Marris of plagiarism if he inscribes on his banner "Veni, vidi," &c., for he has unmistakably scored a treble event with his pantomime "Aladdin," which is showing at the Hippodrome, Richmond, this week. All the ingredients that go to make a popular plot are here—pretty girls, gorgeous dresses, tuneful dances, and really clever principals. Everyone works tremendously hard, with the result that "Aladdin" is an emphatic success. In a cast bristling with clever people, it is somewhat invidious to pronounce on the merits of individuals; still, it is only fair to the artistes to give them their full meed of praise, which they so richly deserve. Mr. Harrington Weekes is a fine, picturesque Abanazar, and his elocution is delightful. His song, "When George IV. was King," is a genuine success. He is a good actor, too, and scores one of the successes of the pantomime. Quite irresistible in her own fascinating way is Miss Ethel Ward as Aladdin. She trips bravely through the part, and dances or sings with refreshing precision. She is just an ideal Aladdin, and is qute excellent in every way. When she sang her allotted ditty, "Who were you with last night?" the audience applauded her to the echo. Her style has an originality and winsomeness that is altogether welcome. Very dainty, too, is the Princess Badroulbadour—Miss Kathleen Severn. She scores her triumph in "The garden of roses," and acts with considerable vivacity and no little charm. On Mr. Gus Oxley falls the somewhat onerous rôle of Widow Twankey, and here, let it be said, he gets every ounce out of the part possible. He is responsible for much of the hilarious merriment which pervades the performance, and he is a whole host in himself, working indefatigably, but always unobtrusively. Mr. Oxley's "Widow" is one of the biggest successes he has ever created. The Bros. Cullane add immensely to the humours of the pantomime, and are responsible for a lot of the merriment; nor must the Emperor, admirably played by Mr. Lionel Scott, be forgotten for a fine, dignified impersonation. Miss Lola Brandt is quite successful as Pekoe; and Mr. Geo. Wedon imparts much dry humour to the rôle of the Vizier. The various minor rôles are capably enacted, and the Eight Jollity Girls add zest to the feast by their spirited dancing. Mr. Walter Brodie is the stage-manager, and his work is excellent; while Mr. H. J. Tilley holds the managerial rein with credit to himself and all concerned.

"CINDERELLA" AT ROCHDALE.

The production of Mr. Wm. Pardoe's pantomime, "Cinderella," at the Rochdale Theatre Royal this week has proved a big attraction, and there have been large and enthusiastic audiences each night. The familiar story was admirably portrayed by a capital company, and the beautiful dresses, charming singing, and graceful dancing of the ladies were much appreciated, while the comic relief kept the audience roaring with laughter. Miss Nellie Rose was a charming "Cinderella"; Miss Lottie Holland made a delightful Prince Charming; Miss May Birkett as the Fairy sang with much taste; Mr. Karl Edwards made an amusing Baron; the Ugly Daughters were well portrayed by Messrs. Barnard and Rue Allen; and Mr. George Hyam as Scoot was responsible for an endless fund of amusement. The pantomime was magnificently staged.

CHARITY CONCERT AT PLYMOUTH WORKHOUSE.

On Tuesday afternoon—thanks to the kindness of certain of the principals of the "Jack and Jill" company, and by kind permission of Mr. Tom B. Davis and the directors of the Theatre Royal, Plymouth—the inmates of the Plymouth Workhouse had a couple of hours' unrestrained enjoyment, a really delightful little concert having been generously arranged by those whose lot is cast amid happier surroundings. Miss Connie Emerald was a great favourite, her songs including "Mr. Cupid," "Gay Paree," and "I'd like to go on a honeymoon"; Miss Evelyn Tyser delighted with a couple of violin selections rendered with brilliant technique; Miss Rosalind Chard's well-trained voice did full justice to "The nightingale and the rose" and "Come, sing to me"; Miss Winsome Drummond's most popular item was a tuneful Irish song; and Miss E. Florence accompanied herself in a couple of pretty numbers. Mr. E. French was rewarded with tumultuous re-demands for his rendering of "A dude's holiday" and "Water scenes"; Mr. F. Le Maitre's magnificent voice did full justice to "Tommy, lad," and "Stonecracker John"; Mr. Bert Monk's nursery interlude, "Ring o' roses," created roars of laughter; Mr. F. Moréna provided an amusing recitation; and Mr. Walter Dowling brought down the house with his famous "Touch wood" song. Mr. Julian Rutt kindly accompanied, and Mr. Malcolm Spurgeon made the necessary arrangements. At the conclusion of the concert the artistes were heartily thanked, and left amidst ringing cheers.

LONDON & SUBURBAN THEATRES.

Correspondents will please note that it is absolutely necessary that all copy should reach us on Wednesday mornings by first post.

WILLESDEN HIPPODROME.

On Monday, Jan. 6, the Naval Play, entitled
"THE FLAG LIEUTENANT."

Messrs. Sydney Bransgrove and N. C. Slaughter's company, in the celebrated Playhouse success, "The Flag Lieutenant," by Major W. P. Drury and Leo Trevor, is creating quite a furore here this week. This play, unlike most dramas, has no heavy parts in the ordinary acceptance of the term, and, though it is of a distinctly emotional character, there is no mawkish sentiment. The cast is excellent throughout. Miss Laura Hanson makes a stately Mrs. Cameron, and, especially in the later acts, gives a particularly fine performance. Lady Hermionie Wynne is very sweet as rendered by Miss May Lytton, who enlists the sympathy of the house. The parts of Viola Hood and Lady Dugdale lose nothing in the capable hands of Miss Gladys Storey and Miss Rosalind Ross. Unfortunately, Miss Stella Leigh and Mr. Ellis Dee only appear in Act III., but they cause considerable amusement. The title-rôle, Richard Lascelles, the flag lieutenant, is played by Mr. H. L. Bruce, who is responsible for a thoroughly artistic rendering. Mr. Geo. Mallett makes a perfect vice-admiral, and Mr. H. Wolston distinguishes himself as Major Thesider. Mr. Oswald Strong is a cheeky young midshipman to the life, and Mr. H. Edward is an equally successful naval surgeon. A large quantity of very beautiful and heavy scenery is carried, and the baggage man must have a lively time. The responsibility—which is no light one—of the stage direction rests with Mr. George Mallett, assisted by Mr. Victor R. C. Moore as stage-manager.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOOLWICH.

On Monday, Jan. 6, the Drama, entitled
"THE GREAT DETECTIVE."

Miss Carlotta de Yonsen and her company are here this week, in "The Great Detective." Mr. C. Douglas Carlile, the author, undertakes the title-rôle, Martin Dare, and his performance is an easy and effective one. Tatters, a would-be detective, is distinctly funny and loses nothing by the acting of clever Mr. Lee Gilbert. Excellent character studies are those of Jim the Smasher and Bill Thompson as played by Messrs. Ellis Leigh and Jed Gerald respectively, whilst as Bodger Mr. Gerald Blake is responsible for a capital impersonation, his quaint style of speech creating much merriment. As the self-satisfied Inspector Scott, Mr. Theo Hanning is "quite at home," and his assistant, P.C. Watson, is safe in the hands of Mr. Fred Resham. Captain Vernon and "the Old 'Un," Foster, are excellently handled by Messrs. Percy Wentworth and Charles A. Carlile. Miss Georgie Steed as the garrulous old housekeeper, Mrs. Bolton, does well. Remarkably good is the interpretation of the cat's-paw, Claire Vernon, by Miss Mina Green, and Miss Carlotta de Yonson as Sal Williams gives a finished and effective portrayal. The minor characters are all carefully placed. Mention must be made of the beautiful bloodhound Dirk, and the scenery and effects are first class.

THE BEDFORD.

On Monday, Jan. 6,
"ALADDIN."

In order to keep up the festive season, the management have Messrs. Day and Lauri's pantomime, "Aladdin," here for a week's engagement, and the visit is proving very popular, the whole production being a very bright one. Aladdin is presented in a dashing manner by Miss Cleo Peel, who is a big favourite, and she gets well home with her rendering of Hitchy Koo. Miss Rosie Fitzgerald is a dainty Princess, and makes a hit with her song, "My heart is with you to-night," which she sings in a very charming way. The chief onus of providing humour falls on Mr. Maitland Marler, who essays the rôle of Mrs. Twankey, but such an accomplished comedian is quite equal to it, and he gives a very droll impersonation of the lady, and scores heavily all along the line, making a special hit in his "Wibbly-wobbly walk" song. Mr. Barnet Murphy puts in some good work as Wishee Washee, and provides many mirthful moments. Those amusing comedians, Will and Walter Etherien, are capital as the policemen. They also introduce their famous horse, which causes roars of laughter, and they give much valuable aid in other scenes. Mr. Harry Sachs does well as the Emperor, and Mr. Harry Wenburn is diverting as Abanazar. A bright Pekoe is found in Miss Ida Katherina, while Miss Ethel Dove is an alluring Prittee, the maid to the Princess. Miss Anna Sachs is seen to advantage as the Slave of the Ring. The Merry Sparks are responsible for some excellent dances, which they execute in a clever manner, and one lady whose name we did not discover made a hit with her song, to which she supplied her own harp accompaniment. The pantomime is well staged and prettily dressed, while the musical part, under the bâton of Mr. J. C. Braddock, plays no small part in the general success. Charles King, comedian; Vera Moore and Bird; Walsh and Holt, in their musical turn also appear on the bill.

HOLLOWAY EMPIRE THEATRE.

On Monday, Jan. 6, the Drama, entitled
"ON HIS MAJESTY'S SERVICE."

A capital company is here this week in the great military and domestic drama, "On His Majesty's Service." The house, on Monday, presented a most animated aspect, when scarcely a seat remained unoccupied, and it was evident that the performance gave unbounded satisfaction. "On His Majesty's Service" is not only a drama introducing incidents of military life, but is a strong, dramatic, emotional play. There are grand military effects, including a full brass band and a real quick-firing machine gun. The acting of the company engaged is excellent all round. Simplicity, womanly tenderness, and pathos characterise the Madge Middleton of Miss Rose Ralph. It is a careful and well-thought-out study; in all her touching scenes Miss Ralph scores greatly. As the hero, Frank Fairway, Mr. C. W. Standing satisfies all the demands of romance, without ever sacrificing anything of the natural, and his delineation has merits as a character study which go beyond the merely picturesque. He quite enters into the spirit of the part and plays with a fine manly, easy and breezy manner. In Mr. Austen Milroy's hands Captain C. Hedley is a villain of the deepest dye, and Mr. George Maxted gives a rugged picture of Ned Farley, the leader of a gang of thieves. General Fairway, the hard-hearted father, is impersonated by Mr. L. K. Walton with effective vigour, and Mr. Henry Scatchard is satisfactory as Geo. Middleton. A skilful representation of Will Rawson is contributed by Mr. Phil Harper, and Mr. Hart Linsay takes advantage of all his opportunities as Sergeant Millwards. Miss Kate Walfred gave a realistic and detailed delineation of disagreeable womanhood as the adventuress, Lucie Marton. A capital performance, full of verve and spirit, and carried out on broad comedy lines, is provided by Mr. Andrew Emm as Bob Whittles. Mr. Emm is a genuine laughter-maker, and the house roared at everything he said and did. He is most ably assisted by Miss Eva Norman as Mary Parkins, and Little Adelaide Cook does well as Master Frank. The remaining characters are all in good hands. The scenery is thoroughly adequate, and with the handsome uniforms form some effective stage pictures. The orchestra performed the incidental and entr'acte music in excellent style, and the comfort of the theatre's numerous patrons is well looked after by Mr. J. Hindle Taylor, the genial and courteous acting-manager.

THE NEW MIDDLESEX.

"The Three Musketeers" was produced at the Middlesex on Monday and met with an enthusiastic reception. The cast comprised many experienced artistes, the scenery (by L. Hart) and the dresses and wigs (by J. Hyman) were very good indeed, and the incidental music appropriate and capitally rendered by Mr. Amos Parker's orchestra. The entire production was indeed worthy of a first-class theatre, Mr. Charles A. East being responsible for the stage-management. In the trying rôle of Philippe D'Artagnan Mr. John F. Preston acquitted himself well and deserved the hearty applause bestowed on his efforts. Mr. Escot Robson made King Louis XIII. of France stand out prominently. Another highly creditable performance was that of Cardinal Richelieu by Mr. Lionel D'Aragon. The Duke of Buckingham as depicted by Mr. Bernhart Turner merits recognition. As Count de Rochefort Mr. Alfred Goddard did useful service. The Three Musketeers were adequately portrayed by Messrs. Edwin Morton (Athos), Arthur T. Lennard (Porthos), and W. Benson (Aramis). Mr. W. E. Passmore was efficient in the part of Planchette, D'Artagnan's servant, and Mr. W. Garrett proved equal to the character of a courier. Miss East Robertson gave a highly successful and finished impersonation of Ann of Austria. The bright style and pleasing manner of Miss Agnes Paulton were exactly suited to the character of Constance, the Queen's maid, and Miss Sybil Etherington, in the difficult part of Miladi, is to be complimented on a clever portrayal.

The variety portion of the programme was excellent. Sinclair's Three Diamonds, including Babs, the famous juvenile toe-dancer, gained well-earned plaudits as singers, skaters, and dancers. Mr. Tom Jones proved very amusing, and is rightly described as the whimsical Welsh comedian. Messrs. Mason and Bart met with a gratifying reception as Captain Kettle and his Mate, comedians on the bars. Their various tricks were neatly and gracefully executed. Pictures complete.

EALING HIPPODROME.

On Monday, Jan. 6,
"SINBAD THE SAILOR."

Mr. Joe Collins' company present their gorgeous production of "Sinbad the Sailor" here this week. From first to last the performance touches a high level, and throughout the whole seven scenes it would be hard to find a dull moment. The comic element is very strong, with such able mirth-provokers as Mr. Will Sullivan (Mrs. Sinbad), Mr. Will Baker (Hinbad), Mr. Geo. Hilliard (the captain), and Mr. Bert High (Bo'sun Bill) included in the cast. Individually, and more or less collectively, they contribute some very funny business, which does not fail to keep the audience in roars. In other departments the company is equally strong. Miss Addie Lennard as Sinbad and Miss Ethel Callanan as Sadie being admirably suited to their parts. Miss Lennard's "Dixie" was delivered with fine spirit, and won much applause, as did her "Honeymoon" duet with Miss Callanan, who also, with the aid of a sweet voice and some attractive songs, met with the hearty approval of the house. As the Old Man of the Sea Mr. Jack Raynor was effective. Miss Queenie West as the fairy, Lustra, left nothing to be desired, her clear enunciation being a pleasing feature of the performance. Miss Harriet Ware as a middy and Miss Dorothy Payne as Perl fill their parts acceptably. Some excellent dancing is done by the Collins' Troupe. The play is under the able stage-managership of Mr. Story Gofton. The scenery is on a lavish scale, and the work of the chorus is very commendable. "Cinderella" is the attraction here next week.

THEATRE ROYAL AND OPERA HOUSE, WINDSOR.

On Monday, Jan. 6, the Pantomime, entitled
"CINDERELLA."

Mr. Edward Graham-Falcon's company is attracting large and delighted audiences here with "Cinderella." The book has been specially written by C. S. Oswald, and the pantomime, produced by Mr. Fred Lawrence, is under the direction of Mr. Edward Graham-Falcon. The costumes are bright and smart, and sparkling music with excellent songs and jests, presented by really good artistes, make the show one of the best seen here. Miss Gladys Warren, an old favourite with Windsor audiences, came in for an enthusiastic reception on her appearance here on Monday; full of dash and vivacity, she soon captivates all hearts as Prince Charming. Gifted with an excellent voice, she wins chief honours with her popular numbers, "Alexander's rag-time band," "Everybody's doing it," and "They all walk the wibbly-wobbly walk." Miss Glen Darragh is a winsome and entertaining Cinderella, and achieves much success with "Oh, you beautiful doll!" and "I do like you, Susie, in your Sunday clothes." Miss Una Reynolds is natural and convincing as Dandini, and with her telling voice is loudly applauded for her songs, "Who were you with last night?" and "The rag-time jockey." Miss Marie Gibbons is, both vocally and histrionically, an attractive Fairy Crystal. Special mention must also be made of Miss Marie Brian, who sings sweetly as Lord Dashem. Exceptionally clever speciality dances are introduced by the Misses Gladys Hamilton, Irene Farmar, Verna Dene, and Mona Lane. In the part of Baron Broke, Mr. Fred Lawrence thoroughly delights the audience with some capital songs and clever whistling; he also undertakes the arduous duties of stage-management with excellent results. Mr. Claud Morton as Phyllis keeps the house in a good humour, his efforts being admirably seconded by Mr. Bert Laurie as Zena. Both gentlemen score a decided hit in their many scenes together as the Ugly Sisters, and contribute some interesting vocal items. Mr. Tom O'Connor fills the rôle of Billy Buttons with an easy assurance wholly befitting the part; he is a capital entertainer with some really clever acrobatic work. Others in the lengthy cast doing full justice to their respective parts are Miss Elsie Reid (Margery), Miss Nell Moxton (First Courtier), Miss Edith Wright (Second Courtier), Miss Vera Murray (Huntsman), Miss Mabel Brook (Master of Hounds), Miss Elsie Gibbons (Master of Horse), and Mr. Bert Lawrence (the Demon). There is naturally a good seasoning of rag-time music, which proves as popular as ever. The setting of the piece is in keeping with the excellent acting. The Fairy Bower scene is particularly commendable, over 2,000 lights being used in this scene alone. The chorus is strong, both numerically and vocally, and well above the average, and is, with an excellent augmented orchestra, under the able direction of Frederic Hendries.

THE WEST LONDON.

On Monday, Jan. 6, the Drama, entitled
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.

There is always a hearty welcome in Marylebone for "Uncle Tom's Cabin," and Mr. Charles Harrington's American combination were most favourably received this week. Mr. J. H. Boehm portrayed lovable Uncle Tom with so much earnest sincerity that he quickly secured the heartiest sympathy of the house; Mr. Raymond Wallace spoke well, and acted in robust fashion as Phineas Fletcher; Mr. Bertram Howard scored as Mr. Sinclair; Mr. Edward Leroy was duly ferocious as the slave-dealer, Legree; Mr. John Gibson was satisfactory as Mr. Wilson; and Mr. Percival Young capably represented the persecuted slave, George Harris. Miss Annie Watson proffered a capital low-comedy study of Topsy, and her performance was thoroughly diverting throughout; Miss E. Stuart-Graham sustained Aunt Ophelia with befitting dignity; Miss Florence Tyler carefully enacted Emmeline; Miss Lizzie Allen was decidedly pleasing as Aunt Chloe; Miss Blanche Leroy did exceedingly well as Mrs. St. Clair; Miss Mabel Bowman was well placed as Dinah; Miss Ethel Masterman played Little Eva on the usual approved lines; Miss Hero Hathaway was a particularly refined Eliza Harris; and Miss Stella Harrington gave a clever conception of the Creole slave, Cassy. The songs and dances by real negroes in the Plantation scene, were deservedly applauded, and the band under the skilful direction of Mr. E. Morris performed admirably.

THE LATE FLETCHER SANSOME.

Mr. William Thomas Fletcher Sansome, who died on Dec. 28, 1912, at 27, Caroline-street, Wigan, aged 43, was the proprietor of "Cissy," "Jack's Sweetheart," "Woman's Honour," and lessee of the Central Hall, Pemberton, and the Cinema, Wigan. When eleven years of age he won the Torr Scholarship at Liverpool, and in 1894 went on the stage, where he had excellent training in long stock seasons. He distinguished himself as a baritone singer in musical comedies, and later joined an opera company, playing Don José, Mephistopheles, and Count Arnheim. On the death of the late Lawrence Daly Mr. Sansome acquired the rights of "Cissy" and "A Woman's Honour," which he toured for some years, playing with much ability the eccentric comedy parts. He then bought "The Mermaid" from Mr. Carr Loates, and prepared to produce it at Workington. Some temporary hitch occurring, however, he wrote and produced in four days "Jack's Sweetheart" in its stead. This comedy ran successfully for two and a half years. Later Mr. Sansome ran several sketches at provincial halls. Tiring of touring he joined Messrs. Hamilton, of "Excursions" fame, as a dramatic lecturer. He opened the Pavilion, Wigan, with the famous U.S.A. pictures, and achieved success for two and a half years. Unfortunately, he broke down under excessive work, and had a severe illness in January, 1912, from which he never recovered. In spite of serious ill-health he bought the Cinema, Wigan, which had been a "white elephant," and turned it into a paying concern, acquiring also later the Central Hall, Pemberton. He was extremely popular in Wigan, and a really clever lecturer, his theatrical experience standing him in good stead. Mr. Sansome was a deeply read and an intellectual man, with a wonderful gift of language. He leaves a widow (Gladys Silvester), who, having worked hand in hand with him for seven years, is well qualified to continue her husband's enterprises. The interment took place at Smithdown-road Cemetery, Liverpool.

A FREE GIFT FOR ALL.

That enterprising firm, the Chemical Cleaning and Dyeing Co., who do so much towards beautifying the accessories of the theatre, are giving away gratis a useful fitting for the telephone. It consists of a metal tablet for recording messages, and is fixed to the stand by the simple means of a clutch and screw. The contrivance will be sent free on request by Mr. A. W. Fisher, the general-manager, who will no doubt be inundated with applications.

DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Mr. A. A. Strong, LL.B., has reached a third edition, and gives in simple language such parts of the law as relate to subjects with which the profession is concerned.—"The Financier."

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at "The Era" Offices, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.—"Referee," May 15, 1910.

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—"Star."

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at "The Era" Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

Mr. J. Henry Twyford, who so successfully addressed the O.P. Club on "Theatres and the Attitude of the Public" (Mr. Max Pemberton in the chair) on Dec. 15, is one of the guests at their Dialect Drama dinner to-morrow (Sunday).

The executive of the Children's League of Pity (Junior Section of the N.S.P.C.C.) has arranged a very attractive four days' bazaar to be held at the Caxton Hall on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday next. H.M. Queen Amelie of Portugal is opening the bazaar on Jan. 14, and has graciously assented to receive purses. The bazaar will be opened on Wednesday by the Duchess of Somerset. Original and artistic dancing displays will be held on Tuesday and Wednesday, and in the afternoon of Thursday a café chantant will take place, when amongst others Miss Jean Aylwin, Miss Phyllis Dare, Miss Ivy St. Helier, Miss Unity More, Miss Jean Sterling MacKinley, and Mr. George Grossmith will appear. Stalls containing serviceable articles will be in evidence. It may be confidently expected that this deserving charity will greatly benefit from attractive features of the above character.

NEW PLAYS OF THE MONTH.

London—December.

"What Women Will Do For Love," drama, in four acts, by J. H. Clyndes and Walter Saltoun, for the first time in London; Theatre Royal, Stratford, Dec. 2.
"The World of Boredom," English version, by Martin Leonard and J. T. Grein, version in three acts of Edouard Pailleron's "Le Monde où l'on s'ennuie"; St. James's, Dec. 5.
"The Man Who Was Dead," drama, by Leo Tolstoi, translated by Z. Vengerova and John Pollock (Literary Theatre Society); Court, Dec. 6.
"The Man with His Back to the East," play, in four acts, by Dorothy Brandon; Court, Dec. 8.
"Monte Cristo," new version of the play by Alexandre Dumas, in eight scenes, adapted by Rollo Balmain; Theatre Royal, Woolwich, Dec. 9.
"The Waldies," play, in four acts, by G. J. Hamlen; Haymarket, Dec. 9.
"After the Opera," dramatic episode, in three scenes, adapted by Norah Keith from the French of E. Reibrach and G. Docquois (first time at a theatre); Apollo, Dec. 9.
"Troilus and Cressida," Shakespeare's play, King's Hall, Covent Garden, Dec. 10.
"If We Had Only Known," play, in three acts, by Inglis Allen; Little, Dec. 13.
"The Grace You Admire," comedy, in three acts, being a new version of "98.9," for the first time in London; Theatre Royal, Woolwich, Dec. 13.
"The Tide," play, in four acts, by Basil Macdonald Hastings; Queen's, Dec. 14.
"Beastie," piece, in one act, by Hugh de Selincourt (Pioneer Players); Little, Dec. 15.
"The Thumbscrew," tragedy, by Edith Lyttleton (Pioneer Players); Little, Dec. 15.
"Honour Thy Father," piece, in one act, by H. M. Harwood (Pioneer Players); Little, Dec. 15.
"A Queen for a Wife," drama, in four acts, by Jack Denton; Theatre Royal, Stratford, Dec. 16.
"The Mormon's Wife," comedy drama, in a prologue and four acts; Theatre Royal, Woolwich, Dec. 16.
"The Woman He Wanted," drama, in four acts, by Lodge-Percy and Henrietta Schrier; Theatre Royal, Stratford, Dec. 23.
"Cinderella," pantomime; Coronet, Dec. 24.
"Beauty and the Beast"; Britannia, Dec. 24.
"The House that Jack Built," by H. B. Levy; pantomime; Fulham Theatre, Dec. 24.
"The Sleeping Beauty," pantomime, by George R. Sims, C. H. Bovill, and Arthur Collins, music by James Glover; Drury Lane, Dec. 26.
"Whittington," pantomime; King's, Hammersmith, Dec. 26.
"Jack and the Beanstalk," pantomime; Crystal Palace.
"Cinderella," pantomime, by A. M. Thompson and Robert Courtneidge; Wimbledon Theatre, Dec. 26.
"Aladdin," pantomime, by Newman Maurice; Brixton Theatre, Dec. 26.
"Sinbad the Sailor," pantomime, by J. Hickory Wood; Dalston Theatre, Dec. 26.
"Mother Goose," pantomime, by J. Hickory Wood; Theatre Royal, Woolwich, Dec. 26.
"Aladdin," pantomime, by Iam Query and Fred Fredericks; Marlborough, Dec. 26.
"Forty Thieves," pantomime, by Newman Maurice, music by H. Sullivan Brooke; Lyceum, Dec. 26.
"Cinderella," pantomime; Prince's, Dec. 26.
"Written in Red," detective drama, in four acts, by F. M. Douglas; Court, Dec. 26.
"Aladdin," pantomime; Broadway, New Cross, Dec. 26.
"Mother Goose," pantomime, by J. Hickory Wood; Borough Theatre, Stratford, Dec. 26.
"Jack and the Beanstalk," pantomime, by Fred S. Jennings; Elephant and Castle, Dec. 26.
"Robinson Crusoe," pantomime, by Fred S. Jennings; Lyric, Hammersmith, Dec. 26.
"The Magic Bell," fairy fantasy, book and music by Archibald H. Benwell; London Opera House, Dec. 26.
"Nicely, Thanks!" a venture in vaudeville; Strand, Dec. 26.

Revivals.

"A Grain of Truth," farcical episode, in one scene, by Herbert C. Sargent; King's Theatre, Southsea, Dec. 16.
"A Mother's Vengeance," drama, in four acts, by W. V. Garrod; Theatre Royal, Leigh, Dec. 16.
"Percy the Altruist," comedy, by Claude Ponsonby; (amateurs); Royal County Theatre, Bedford, Dec. 12.
"Shock-Headed Peter," by Philip Carr and Nigel Playfair; Vaudeville, Dec. 21.
"The Golden Land of Fairy Tales," Aldwych, Dec. 21.
"Peter Pan," play, in three acts, by J. M. Barrie (ninth year); Duke of York's, Dec. 23.
"Charley's Aunt," by Brandon Thomas; Little, Dec. 26.
"John Bull's Other Island," play, in four acts, by Bernard Shaw; Kingsway, Dec. 26.

Provinces.

"The Maiden in Mars," musical play, composed by Mr. Graham Anderson (amateurs); Town Hall, Aylsham.
"Two Little Scout Boys," patriotic drama, in four acts, by John Dunbar and Herbert Lloyd; Theatre Royal, Rotherham, Dec. 2.
"Sweeping the Country," comedy, in two acts, by William Paul (Ulster Literary Theatre Company); Grand Opera House, Belfast, Dec. 10.
"Family Rights," play, in one act, by M. F. Scott (Ulster Literary Theatre Co.); Grand Opera House, Belfast, Dec. 9.
"Robert Emmet," Irish historical drama, by J. W. Whitbread (produced by the O'Brien and Ireland Company); Castlebar, Dec 6.
"The Dragon," original historical play, by the Rev. W. T. Saward and Eustace Ponsonby; Royal County Theatre, Bedford, Dec. 9.
"The Magic Flute," first performance in English of Mozart's opera; Theatre Royal, Nottingham, Dec. 13.
"By Right of Sword," adapted by Charles Kenyon from A. W. Marchmont's novel of the same name; Theatre Royal, Bury, Dec. 16.
"Lady Eleanor, Lawbreaker," comedy, in three acts, by the late Robert Barr; Liverpool Repertory Theatre, Dec. 16.

Paris.

"La Sorcière," musical drama, four acts and five tableaux, by André Sardou, music by Emile Erlanger; Opéra Comique, Dec. 18.
"L'Homme qui Assassina," play, four acts, by P. Frondaye; Antoine, Dec. 19.
"Les Singes," comedy, one act, by Albert Keyser and Charles Martel; Antoine, Dec. 19.
"La Femme Seule," play, by M. Brieux, three acts; Gymnase, Dec. 22.
"La Part du Feu," comedy, four acts, by Mouszy-Eon and Nancey; Bouffes-Parisiens, Dec. 24.

Berlin.

"Sommer," comedy, in three acts, by Thaddäus Rittner; Lessing, Dec. 6.
"Graf Pepi," three-act comedy, by MM. Saudek and Halm; Lustspielhaus, Dec. 8.
"Das Urteil des Salomo," four-act play, by Else Torge; New Volks Theatre, Dec. 8.
"Puppchen," musical burlesque, in three acts, by MM. Kren and Kraatz; Thalia, Dec. 18.
"Berlin-Hamburg-New York," spectacular farce, in four acts, by Ernst Ritterfeld; Luisen, Dec. 20.
"Der Blaue Vogel," fairy play, in ten scenes, by M. Maeterlinck, German by Stephen Epstein; Deutsches, Dec. 23.
"Das Fürstenkind," operetta, in a prelude and two acts, by Franz Lehar; Gross-Berlin, Dec. 27.
"Die Frau Präsidentin," three-act farce, by MM. Hennequin and Veber, German by Bolten-Bäckers; Residenz, Dec. 28.
"Der Austausch-Leutnant," farce, in three acts, by MM. Wilde and Von Negelein; Royal Schauspielhaus, Dec. 31.

THE MUSICAL YEAR.

The chief event of 1912, musically, of course, was the final closing of Mr. Oscar Hammerstein's London Opera House on July 13 after an adventurous career. Surely if anything could close a beautiful opera house it would be the portentously long and dull opera of Mr. Joseph Holbrooke and Lord Howard de Walden on June 15, which was conducted by Mr. Nikisch. The fate of the opera was never for a moment in doubt; the subject was dull and of little human interest; not only that, but the stage, scenery, and singers were almost in darkness. The chief success of the summer season was "Tales of Hoffmann," given quite a dozen times, while "Don Quichotte," by Massenet, proved a great artistic success. The scenery was extremely good, and M. Lafont quite an ideal Don. Tall and gaunt, a fine actor and singer, M. Lafont fully realised the part. Other operas successful were "Mignon," "William Tell," "Rigoletto," "Louise," "Hériodade," "Roméo et Juliette," and "Lucia di Lammermoor." Le Jongleur of Notre Dame," though so well sung and acted, failed, as at Covent Garden, to please, but "Lucia" proved successful owing to Mlle. Felice Lyne's fine singing and the support of that clever actor and singer, Mr. Orville Harrold. "The Barber of Seville," with Mlle. Lyne as Rosina, was also very artistic. Other talented artistes appearing were Mlle. Kerlord, M. Renaud, Mlle. Vallandri, Mlle. Fer, M. Figurella, M. Chadal, and Mr. Frank Pollock.

The stage-director was M. Jacques Coini, and the conductors Luigi Cherubini, Merola, and Arthur Nikisch. The orchestra was good, and the English chorus sang superbly; but nothing could avert the end, and the changing from opera to theatre prices proved fatal to the enterprise, in spite of the popular "Les Cloches de Corneville" being given among other interesting works.

The grand season at Covent Garden, which began on April 20 and ended on Aug. 1, was the longest ever given by the syndicate, and twenty-two operas were performed, with two cycles of Wagner's "Ring." "Tristan" was also heard twice, and the famous Russian Ballet were as popular as ever from the middle of the season, when they came, until the end. They produced "Thamar," with Balakireff's music; "Les Sylphides," by M. Fokine; the exceedingly beautiful "L'Oiseau de Feu," with score by Stravinsky, a young Russian, Mme. Tamar Karsavina and M. Adolf Bolm being the principals; and "Narcisse," M. Tcherepnin, the ballet conductor, supplying the music. Mr. Thomas Beecham was one of the conductors. The charming "Le Spectre de la Rose" was again performed, with the delightful Nijinsky and Mme. Karsavina. Referring to the operas the two novelties were Wolf Ferrari's "Giojelli della Madonna" and "Conchita," by Zandonai. In the former Signor Sammarco and Signor Martinelli, also Mme. Edvina, greatly distinguished themselves. Only two performances were given of the latter. Mlle. Tarquinia Tarquini was a new Carmen, Signor Guiseppe Cellini being heard for the first time as Don José. Among the other operas were "The Girl from the Golden West," "Gli Ugonotti," "Aïda," "La Bohème," "La Tosca," "Louise," "Samson et Dalila," "Manon Lescaut," "Il Segreto di Suzanna," and the revival of "Mefistofele," by Boïto, also "Pagliacci." Mme. Melba being absent, Mme. Tetrazzini was heard during a great portion of the season. Mention must be made of M. Martinelli, who achieved such success in "La Tosca." Among others Mlle. Emmy Destinn was superb in "Madama Butterfly" (Puccini). Of the "Ring" portion two complete cycles were given, Dr. Rottenburg, from Frankfurt, proving a first-rate conductor, giving due prominence to the vocal as well as the musical side of the great music drama. Among the singers were Mesdames Saltzmann, Stevens, Kirkby Lunn, Kappel, and Messrs. Cornelius, Hensel, and Van Rooy. In "Die Walküre" Herr Heinrich Hensel, who impersonated the hero, gave a very graceful and intelligent performance.

The four great schools were well represented, the Royal Academy of Music giving their performance by the operatic class, in the new building, under the direction of Mr. Edgardo Levi, of Mozart's "Le Nozze di Figaro." Suzanna was well played by Miss Phœbe Cooke, and Mr. Henry Saunders made a capital Figaro. Also a good students' orchestral concert took place at Queen's Hall. The Royal College of Music have been making good progress, and during December gave a performance of Sir Alexander Mackenzie's lyrical drama, "Colomba," at His Majesty's, the text being revised and partly re-written by Claude Aveling. The stage was under the direction of Mr. Cairns James, owing to the lamented death of Mr. Richard Temple, and the lyrical drama was conducted by Sir Charles Stanford.

During the spring, also, the Trinity College of Music gave a very creditable performance of "The Mountebanks," under the direction of Mr. Cairns James. Miss Edith Davies as Teresa greatly distinguished herself, the Ministra of Miss Doroothy Sinfield was worthy of praise, and Miss Grace Ensworth as Nita quite entered into the spirit of the part. Mr. Herbert Turquand displayed considerable humour in the character of Pietro, and Mr. John Priestley made the clown, Bartolo, very effective.

In April the Guildhall School of Music gave a performance of Gilbert and Sullivan's opera, "The Gondoliers," by members of the operatic class, and under the direction of the principal, Mr. Landon Ronald. All the performers were good in singing as well as acting. Miss Winnie Browne made a charming Casilda. The two Gondoliers were most cleverly impersonated by Mr. Alfred Steed and Mr. Carl True. The chorus acted and danced exceedingly well, and Mr. L. Cairns James was the stage-manager.

In the concerts of the season mention must be made of the Promenades under Sir Henry Wood's conductorship, which again proved such a great success.

Among the deaths the famous composer Jules Massenet's was a great loss to the musical world. He died suddenly at his house in Paris on Aug. 13, having come up from his château at Egreville to consult his doctor. Two of his works deserve special mention, "Le Jongleur de Notre Dame" and "Don Quichotte." Another much-regretted death was that of Samuel Coleridge Taylor, whose cantata, "Hiawatha's wedding feast," was so much admired, and whose many excellent pieces for piano are well known, notably the suite "Scenes from an imaginary ballet." The violin concerto, which was the last work of the late Mr. Coleridge Taylor, was performed at the Promenades on Oct. 8. The deceased composer studied at the Royal College of Music. Another regretted death was that of Frances Allitsen, whose songs are well known in this country.

Miss Helena Head has been giving her recital of the principal scenes from "Macbeth" again in New York, which she did two years ago, prefaced, as before, by an introduction to the play, and given with descriptive remarks on the action, connecting the different selections.

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AMERICAN AMUSEMENTS.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

NEW YORK, Dec. 30.—"Years of Discretion," a comedy in three acts, by Frederic Hatton and Fanny Locke Hatton, has scored an emphatic success at the Belasco Theatre. It is a delightful play, and is acted to perfection by a particularly strong cast. It is all about a widow of forty-eight who comes to the metropolis bent on being young again, and having a "good time." She engages a French maid, and with the aid of fashionable attire, cosmetics and false hair changes her appearance so wonderfully that her own son hardly recognises her. She is immediately besieged by two admirers, namely, Christopher Dallas (Mr. Lyn Harding) and Michael Doyle (Mr. Bruce McRae). The latter is an ardent and impulsive Irishman, and almost gets the best of his rival, trying to take the lady by storm, so to speak, but Dallas wins her after all. The significance of the play's title is shown in an amusing scene at the close, when the lady discards her tight shoes and corsets and false hair and resumes her normal appearance, finding more happiness in being comfortable and her real self than in keeping up a pretence of youthfulness. Her new husband confesses that he is similarly inclined, being fifty-two and troubled with rheumatism, so he puts on an old hat and brings out his spectacles, and, seated under the trees in an old-fashioned garden, they face the audience as the pair of middle-aged lovers that they really are.

Miss Effie Shannon as the widow, Mrs. Farrell Howard, has a part that suits her admirably, and the audience expressed its approval of her brilliant performance in hearty fashion. Mr. Herbert Kelcey had an important part, so we had the pleasure of seeing this popular pair enjoying their old-time prominence on the local stage once again. Any part that he may play is always safe in Mr. Kelcey's hands, Mr. Lyn Harding's Christopher Dallas is a most engaging impersonation, the effectiveness of the best scenes in the play depending largely on his easy bearing and polished manner. Mr. Bruce McRae is at his best as the impulsive and witty Irishman, Michael Doyle, and makes a decided hit. Mr. E. M. Holland, Mr. Grant Mitchell, Mr. Robert McWade, jun., and Miss Alice Putnam play their parts cleverly. Produced by Mr. Belasco, the play is beautifully staged, its three scenes being perfect in every detail.

Miss Maude Adams began her annual engagement at the Empire Theatre on the 23rd inst., appearing in the perennially popular "Peter Pan." A large and fashionable audience gave Miss Adams a most enthusiastic welcome, and there were numerous recalls at the close of each act. Mr. Robert Peyton Carter has succeeded Mr. Ernest Lawford in the rôle of Captain Hook, the pirate chief.

"Rutherford and Son," a play in three acts, by Githa Sowerby, was performed for the first time in this country at the Little Theatre on the 24th inst. and made a deep impression. Such a faithful and convincing representation is seldom seen upon our stage, and Mr. Norman McKinnel's powerful portrayal of John Rutherford is something not to be forgotten. The grim reality of the scenes enacted by the group of conscientious and clever players engaged in the interpretation of this exceptionally truthful play compelled the audience to watch the performance with rapt attention. Mr. Winthrop Ames is to be congratulated on having secured such an excellent play for the boards of the Little Theatre. Miss Edyth Olive's embodiment of Janet Rutherford could hardly be overpraised, and Miss Thyrma Norman won the sympathies of the audience as young John Rutherford's wife. The two sons, John and Richard, were admirably acted by Mr. J. V. Bryant and L. G. Carroll respectively, while Rutherford's sister Ann was effectively represented by Miss Agnes Thomas. Miss Marie Ault won a round of applause for her cleverly rendered denunciation of John Rutherford, and the rôle of Martin was well filled by Mr. J. Cooke Beresford.

Kleptomania is the theme of Carlyle Moore's three-act farce entitled "Stop Thief!" which has just been produced by Messrs. Cohan and Harris at the Gaiety Theatre. The story is about two thieves. One of them is a girl, introduced into the house as a lady's maid, and the other is her lover. The master of the house is an absent-minded old gentleman with the habit of picking up articles that lie about and putting them into his pockets. This leads to the supposition that he is a kleptomaniac. His daughter is aware of this habit, but is ignorant of the fact that her intended husband is similarly afflicted. The new lady's maid smuggles her thieving lover in the house and the police are called in to try to straighten out the complications. One valuable article after another disappears, and in the search for the culprit many laughable situations are evolved. The chief characters are cleverly represented by Messrs. Richard Bennett, Percy Ames, William Boyd, Frank Bacon, Thomas Findlay and James C. Marlowe; Misses Mary Ryan, Ruth Chester, Vivian Martin, Elizabeth Lane and Louise Woods.

The Children's Theatre, on the roof of the Century Theatre, was opened on the 21st inst., when a delightful performance was given of "Racketty-Packetty House," in which the principal characters are Peter Piper, Queen Crosspatch, the Duchess of Tidyshire, and Lady Patricia Vere de Vere. The play was written by Mrs. Frances Hodgson Burnett and was acted by children, with one or two exceptions. The piece was preceded by Kinemacolor moving pictures, these being explained by Mr. Ben Greet. The characters in the play were introduced by little Miss Jean Ford, who acted as chorus, and for whom Mr. Louis N. Parker had written a little speech. Appropriate incidental music was composed by Mr. Vivian Burnett, son of the author.

Mr. Robert Hilliard has made a success as a detective in a play called "The Argyle Case," now running at the Criterion Theatre. It is the best detective play we have seen on the local stage for a long period, and it certainly ought to be, in view of the fact that the two authors, Harriet Ford and Harvey J. O'Higgins, wrote it in collaboration with the famous detective, Mr. William J. Burns, who has been very much in the public eye during the last few months. Modern methods of dealing with criminals are illustrated by the use of the dictagraph and thumb-prints, and the plot is worked out in a very interesting and exciting manner. As Asche Kayton, the detective, Mr. Hilliard has the best part that has fallen to him for many a year and treats the audience to a very effective piece of acting.

Mr. Oscar Hammerstein is nothing if not prolific, whether it be in the matter of building theatres and opera houses or turning out musical compositions. He has just composed a piece of music called "A Waltz Jubilee." It was played at the Hippodrome concert last Sunday evening and consisted of no fewer than fourteen waltzes between which other compositions by Mr. Hammerstein were interpolated.

Mary Anglo, a Londoner, who has had remarkable success throughout America, made her first public appearance in this country on Monday at the London Opera House in a demonstration of hypnotic dream visions. Miss Anglo is not hypnotised by any second person, but, apparently, when seated on the stage, falls propria motu into a semi-comatose condition, appearing to be half-asleep; and then, when cards are selected promiscuously from a pack by volunteers from the audience, she names the particular cards without the possibility of seeing them. She also tells what certain members of the audience are thinking of; but to this part of the demonstration there are two obvious objections. The theatre is too vast for such a display, and the dream-visions narrated by the lady are delivered in a voice which cannot be distinctly heard half way across the auditorium. Nevertheless, this exhibition of wireless mental telegraphy is undoubtedly mysterious.

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THE SCENE PAINTER'S PROGRESS.

By GEORGE TWEDDELL.

(Continued.)

MOORISH ARCHITECTURE.

This style, called also Arabian and Saracenic, is a different kind adopted by the Arabs and Moors, and the Mohammedans in different countries.

The well-known horseshoe arch, sometimes called the "crescent arch," because of its being the symbol of the Mohammedan faith, was given a pointed top and supported by low, slender columns, and many writers are of opinion it was this from which the Gothic was derived.

The prevailing features of Moorish architecture are well exemplified by the splendid work done in Spain at Cordova, Granada, &c. The well-known "Court of Lions" in the Alhambra was finely reproduced at the Crystal Palace, and well worth a visit by the student. The ornamental parts of Moorish consists of finely arranged geometrical patterns, exquisite honeycomb fret-work, mosaics, and pavements and trellis work. Forbidden by the Koran to depict the human form or animal life, the more attention, no doubt, was paid to these forms, and most exquisitely beautiful work it is, incomparable, one might almost say, in this direction. The arrangement of the colours, also, cannot be surpassed, Persian rugs and carpets and the like being much sought after and very valuable.

This kind of architecture has been extensively used in pantomimes, ballets, &c., by the scenic artists past and present, admitting the use of gold foil and the use of primative colours in parts, and as often the subject being derived from "The Arabian Nights" was well adapted for this class of entertainment. Some excellent exterior work of this class was recently done by a scenic artist of the first class, Mr. J. Harker, for "Kismet."

There are plenty of what we scene painters call "authourites" to be easily obtained, as also of Indian architecture, "Daniel's Oriental Scenery" being a good work of reference, also the numbers of the "Illustrated London News," that store-house of universal knowledge, so often used by scene painters when at a loss for a guide.

Having run through the principal features of architecture in what I might call a cursory glance, I will conclude by advising the student to get some of the standard works, and study the details from them for himself. We now come to the subject of interior decoration, and what is called "chamber painting in theatres."

Since our modern playwrights generally have placed their characters inside modern drawing-rooms, libraries, and the like, there is more demand for this class of work in the theatres of to-day than any other, so it is well worth while for the student to make himself well acquainted with the different kinds of house decoration, past and present. The study of mouldings and the different kinds of ornament is very necessary, and there are innumerable designs easily to be obtained. When the design is made, and the colours of the chamber settled, the same design and colour has to be repeated on every flat, so it is here the beginner will be most likely to procure employment as an "assistant." All the lines of the mouldings must be measured and struck with chalk lines for the cornice, decorative panels, dado, and doors, &c., and the ornamental enrichments pounced on and marked out with drawing ink or colour. After this is done, the colours, mixed in sufficient quantity, must be "picked in" or filled in over the whole set, and the gold or other mouldings also laid in. Now, this repetition is the same as that of the house decorator, hence it is obvious that the artist can call in more aid in this class of work than most others; and, like ruling out bricks and stones, it is generally the beginner's first work in scene-painting, and only requires care, the design being given and colours mixed for him. Every kind of room has to be done, from the ordinary parlour or bedroom up to the "rococo," called by so many a "debased style of architecture and decoration."

The styles, however, of Louis XIV. and Louis XV. are very rich in appearance with the fanciful subjects painted in the panels. Watteau, who lived from 1684 to 1721, created a school of what is called mock-pastoral painting, but he was a man of genius in his line, and a friend of a scene-painter of that period, Gillot, who introduced him to the theatre, where he used to make designs, and, it is very likely, worked with him. He did a lot of work, of what some have called "fascinating worthlessness," courtly dames and gallants singing, dancing, and flirting and playing, &c., and these subjects lend themselves to these kinds of interiors.

The French decorators and scene-painters have always excelled in ornamental decoration, but they possess an advantage, I think, over us in being more expert in figure-painting. Personally, I think I prefer for colour and general treatment the work of our own countrymen. That fine, all-round scenic artist, Mr. Walter Hann, and others will, I think, compare favourably with any. Mr. Hann has possibly executed as many interiors of all periods as anyone, having had, as the times demanded, a run on this department; and for artistic treatment and softness and refined colour I think it would be difficult to surpass them. The same might be said of his fine oak-carved interiors and imitations of old tapestry, and it is to such work by him, and others, like Mr. Harker, the student's attention is directed. Especially is this so to those who will persist in using loud and gaudy colours in this kind of work. Reverting back to the usual and most general kind of "chambers" in most constant use, such as white, grey, and gold, if the student has been taught to draw in black chalk from the plaster casts in a school of art, that is to say, after he has done the course of outline from flat copies, he should very soon be able to paint ornament on chambers in gold, white, or colours. "Of the making of books there is no end," and the same may be said of chambers. If not the highest form of art, yet much knowledge and experience is necessary, and constant practice in the painting-room is the only way. The ruling of lines of different thicknesses and the like is gained by practice, and, like all other things, the correct light and shade is the most important matter, as I have tried to impress on the beginner throughout these articles. I must, I suppose, before concluding, say a few words about other things connected with this extensive subject, which I have only touched on the most important parts.

I impressed, at the commencement, on the beginner the great importance of correct drawing and knowledge of proportion and perspective. These "means to an end" cannot be dispensed with, and are the foundation on which the superstructure depends. But there are many things that cannot be drawn, like clouds, sea waves, foam, and water. These things must be modelled and painted right away from impressions. The great Turner once said to a Plymouth artist who went out sketching with him one misty morning and complained he could not see things he knew to be there: "Have you not learnt, after all those years, to paint your impressions? You know those things to be there. You cannot see them, and you want to paint them." The great painter of sunlight and mist taught this student of details something then, I should think, yet many people imagine when these things are most carefully done it is the "be all and end all" of art, quite forgetting that a photograph renders them far more perfect, and that the finest miniature looks rough under a microscope.

As figure-painting comes in our way at times, as the cupids, &c., in French chambers, and marble statues in gardens, painted ceilings, and the like, it is usual in high-class work to call in an expert in figure-painting to do this. Nevertheless, if the student goes through a course of drawing from the casts of figures in a school of art, he will find it to his advantage, for if he can draw the human nude from the antique, well, he can assuredly draw most other objects. The nude figure has always been considered the highest art, and a splendid training for any artist in whatever line he may pursue. I don't wish to convey that sculptors are supposed to draw trees or fine figure-painters sea waves, but it trains the eye to extreme accuracy, hence it ought to be studied; and as the French and Italian scene-painters receive some early training in this, they are all the better for it. In Paris one sees decorative figure-painting in common use all over, and it is strange that in England it has not been more encouraged. Anyhow, the student may learn to paint cupids, &c., in decorative work in a fairly good manner from copies, if he will practise. To be a really good figure-painter requires a very severe training in the schools, and the study of anatomy—that is, a knowledge of the skeleton and the external muscles. Without this knowledge, and to be able to draw them from memory, no one can be perfect in nude figures. "Great painters have studied anatomy, and the ablest have been those who know most about it," says a learned writer. I have seen a chalk drawing by Raphael of a draped figure, in which the skeleton was drawn under the drapery to make sure. M. Angelo was so proficient that he often carried his knowledge of this too far in his work—that is, he overdid it, and many other great painters of the figure have studied this subject deeply. And the Royal Academy has always had its learned professor, so I need say no more in support of this. Combined with constant practice from the living model, it is this which makes the work of the fine figure-painter so superior to many who can paint figures fairly well to please, but will not bear the searching eye of the educated art critic. There are plenty of books on the proportions of the human body and artistic anatomy; the well-known French work of Dr. Fan and the late Dr. Marshall, the celebrated surgeon and professor to Royal Academy, are the best. I merely state those things if the student cares to study them, and it seems worth while, because good figure-painters in distemper are scarce, and receive good remuneration when required.

CONCLUSION.

Having run through the most important parts of the scene-painter's calling, and given the best advice to guide the earnest student on his way, if he has thoroughly made up his mind to enter it, and possesses the aptitude of it, and above all, is not afraid of hard work, I will now draw these articles to a close. It is my intention to have them published in a book, with black and white illustrations, at a price within the reach of all. I wished to bring out a book with fine coloured plates, and, though I sent out scores of circulars and did not wish for any profit whatever, I received three subscribers! Yet for years people have been asking for such a book. The great cost of colour-printing, to be properly done, prevented me doing this, except at a cost too much for a limited number of people. Hence, without a certain number of subscribers, no publisher will risk it, as it does not appeal to the million. I made a set of studies of skies and trees from Nature for Parts I. and II., and so on, but as I could not get the patronage of a single representative person, I have abandoned the idea for the present. It is by colour alone that my ideas could be best conveyed; they were done for practical teaching, not for pretty pictures, and, I think, might have answered the purpose. Having had the paint brush in my hand nearly fifty years, and always been employed in the regular theatres, I think I know something about what I am writing, for the beginner, at least.

I will conclude these articles by saying they have been, figuratively speaking, written almost from memory, with the brush in one hand and the pen in the other, so any discrepancy must be forgiven.

I must now impress on all those students who may wish to advance in this branch of art the importance of remembering the following chief factors in this, as in most other branches of painting:—

The composition of the scene, from a "cloth" to the largest set.

Light and shade, breadth and "keeping," as artists call it, that is, the lights in the half-tones and shaded parts must not be obtrusive; a very common error with beginners and mediocre painters. Especially is this so in distemper painting, where the colours always dry out so much lighter when mixed with white, and, if not toned down, destroy the breadth.

In reference to half-tones, I would advise the learner to take a large piece of cardboard and commence with pure white at top, and blend this into black at the bottom. Now, if this is carefully done, note the very great range of normal greys that take place in the melting of the white to the black; and, instead of jumping from one end of the scale to the other, the learner will see what is meant by half-tones.

In landscape, especially, "atmosphere" is a very great matter, and we want our skies and distances to look like this instead of paint. Unfortunately, many scene-painters of the present use most glaring green-blues and colours in the sky which look like paint and nothing else, as I pointed out at the commencement in the article on skies. Distemper is a splendid material to gain this important matter, though the introduction of fireproof canvas now insisted on often destroys what otherwise might be fine and delicate by the action of the ammonia, &c., on certain colours, hence a sky when dry looks very different to what one expected it when laid in; so the best pigments should be used. That fine scenic artist, the late W. R. Beverly, whose splendid skies and distances almost looked like one breathing the air, used to paint them with very thin colour mixed principally with water, the strong pruning on the pure flax canvas absorbing them, so as not to rub off, and very quickly done, berditer blue, the finest yellow ochre, rose pink, indigo, and the best ultramarine, all mixed with Paris white in pails, being his favourite colours for this purpose, others being rubbed in from pallet if required.

Rose pink and indigo was a favourite with him for distant trees.

I will now conclude by hoping the learner will observe the work of our best scene-painters, who uphold scenic-painting to-day, an art that has always had the best exponents in England, and been admired by distinguished Continental visitors and artists. At the banquet given to Mr. Macready, who did much to advance scenic art, employing Clarkson, Stansfield, R.A., William Telbin, Marshall, and others of the best class, the remarks made by the German Ambassador, Mr. Van de Weyer, before one of the most distinguished gatherings of celebrated men, assembled to do honour to the great actor in 1851, on his farewell of the stage, are very gratifying. This is what he said:—

"No foreigner could visit English theatres without noticing the extraordinary talent, the real genius, the richness of imagination, the picturesqueness of the colouring, and the beauty of the architecture displayed by the artist in scenic decorations."

In this Sir Charles Eastlake, then president of the Royal Academy, in a speech that followed, quite concurred.

So our scene-painters over sixty years ago were evidently doing very fine work, and the lamp is still kept burning by some amongst our ranks. Mr. Hann, before-mentioned, is a connecting-link from the past and present, and still turning out excellent work. Mr. Harker, Mr. M'Cleery, Mr. H. Brooke (of the Royal Opera), Mr. Bruce Smith, Mr. Stafford Hall, and a newcomer, Mr. Conard Tritcheler, are doing excellent work. I wish the student of this art every success in his progress. "Nothing is denied to well-directed industry," said Sir J. Reynolds, and, after all, this is everything. Constant practice can alone give crispness of touch, and long experience, what artists call "feeling." I have dwelt with the theoretical, as well as the practical, in those papers, because one cannot demonstrate with the pen same as the brush; but if anyone fancies I have asserted anything I cannot prove, I am ready to prove by painting any subject named at once before them. So far, we conclude until I can get my illustrations ready for publication.

"POLYTYPIC" PLAYS.

The English plays that represent the stage of literary history between 1545 and 1566 may, says Mr. C. M. Gayley in his preface to "Representative English Comedies," be called polytypic. "Roister Doister" and "Jacke Jugeler" subordinate the materials of academic interlude and classical farce to classical regulations. Into the "Historie of Jacob and Esau" enter characteristics of miracle play, moral, realistic interlude, and classical comedy. "Gammer Gurton" and "Tom Tyler" (of about the same date) subsume, under the domestic play of low life, native elements of both farce and moral. "Misogonus" combines elements of moral interlude and farce with qualities native and foreign, classical, and romantic. These are followed by the biblical *genre* drama of "Godly Queen Hester," partly political and partly pedagogical in intent. In the first five of these plays the tendency to teach is reduced almost to a minimum. In the "Misogonus" and "Hester" it is present, but is counterbalanced by romantic or satirical considerations. When, however, we reach the "Damon and Pythias" and "The Supposes," the didactic has disappeared altogether in favour of the truly artistic motive. These plays at last combine the comic and serious, the real, the romantic, and the ideal. They are constructive, not primarily critical; in fact, they must be regarded as our first real comedies.

No play of this division better illustrates the impress of the classical model upon native material than "Roister Doister." This "comedie" or "interlude" was certainly in existence by 1552; indeed, it has not yet been conclusively shown that it was not acted as early as 1534 to 1541. In the last contingency it may have anticipated the "Thersytes"; but, according to Professor Flügel's argument, it was probably not composed till after 1545. With the "Thersytes" it has in common several points of detail, but the essential resemblance is, of course, in the Plautine personage of the braggart. Like Heywood before him, Udall aims to produce that which "is comendable for a man's recreation," but the masterpiece of Udall has the advantage of Heywood's "mery plays," in that its mirth "refuses scurilitie." In "Roister Doister," also more decidedly than in previous plays, the amusement proceeds not from the situation alone, but from the organism—a plot essentially and substantially dramatic, because its characters are concrete, purposive, and interacting. But decided as was Udall's contribution to the art of comic drama, we must not credit him with producing comedy proper. The merit of "Roister Doister" is in its comic intent, its skilful characterisation and contrivance. It is a presentation of humours—corrective indeed, but farcical. It is not significant, constructive, poetic, grounded in the heart as well as in the head. A contribution to the classical type contemporary with the preceding, but of a much more farcical and juvenile appearance, is the "new interlued" named "Jacke Jugeler," written not later than 1562 and perhaps as early as 1553-54 (after the reëstablishment of the Mass and before the terrifying revival of the sanguinary laws against heretics). It announces itself as a school drama, and in the prologue purports to have been derived from the "Amphitruo" of Plautus. I am inclined to think that the professed modesty of the author has led critics to undervalue the skill and fidelity of that which was not only the best "droll," but also the best dramatic satire produced in England up to date. Within a narrow compass he has developed a humorous action quite novel in English comedy, and has introduced us, not only to the first English double and one of the first English practical jokers, but, I believe, to our first victim of confused identity. The author is, of course, following his Plautus, but what could be more ludicrous than the scene in which Jenkin, uncertain and undesirous of his own acquaintance, covers himself with ignominy in the effort to discard it? We are led from interest to interest by means of anticipation, surmise, and the clever repetition of comic crises. Characters well drawn like Dame Coy and Alison, distinct like Jacke and Jenkin, suggestive of complexity like Bon grace, were not of everyday occurrence in the drama of 1553. The language, too, is idiomatic, and the wit, though vulgar, unforced. But perhaps more significant for our purpose than any other feature of the play is this, that in spite of its avowed æsthetic intent (even more outspoken than that of "Roister Doister"), it is a subtle attack upon the Roman Catholic Church. This interlude, says the maker, citing the authority of the classics, is written for the express purpose of provoking mirth, and for no other purpose; it is "not worth an oyster shell Except percase it shall fortune to make men laugh well"; but under the artifice we find a parable of the doctrinal Jacke Jugeler of the day, whose mission it was to prove that "One man may have two bodies and two faces, And that one man at one time may be in two places." I do not think that the satirical character of the play has heretofore been remarked, though the controversial allusions of the epilogue are, of course, well known. The innocence of the prologue and the profession of trifles fit for "little boys" are as shrewd an irony as the dramatic attack upon transubstantiation is a huge burlesque.

The nursing staff at Charing Cross Hospital held their annual reception on Wednesday night. The musical portion was stage-managed by Mr. W. Polk. Mr. Charles Capper gave some good whistling solos, and Mr. Fred Morris was very amusing. A remarkable child is little Esme Holderness, the youngest classical dancer in the world, who gave a recitation, followed by an old-world dance and a stately gavotte. Mr. Barclay Gammon was loudly acclaimed for his rendering of "The First Lord of the Admiralty" and other songs. "The Beau Brocades" (through the kindness of Mr. Oswald Stoll) gave songs, harp and flute quartettes, violin solos, &c., to the delight of all.

THEATRICAL GOSSIP

Mr. H. B. Irving has taken a lease of the Savoy Theatre from September next, and will commence management there on his return from South Africa. He has also bought a new comedy, by Mr. Roy Horniman, entitled "After Many Days." Everything that Mr. H. B. Irving does is interesting, and the Savoy should suit him exactly.

The Academy of Dramatic Art has acquired a lease of a portion of land, fronting on Malet-street, by which the present premises in Gower-street will be considerably enlarged. The next students' public performance, at which the Bancroft Gold Medal is to be awarded, will take place at the close of the present term, which ends early in March. It should be added that the Council has received a notable addition in Miss Irene Vanbrugh, and that Mr. Norman Page and Mr. Nigel Playfair have lately been added to the staff.

The January meeting of the board of directors of the Royal General Theatrical Fund was held at Savoy House, Strand, on Tuesday last, under the chairmanship of Mr. M. R. Morand Messrs. Lionel Carson, Henry Evil, Alfred Jenner, Herbert Lyndon, Bassett Roe, Hubert Willis, H. Saxe Wyndham, and Charles Cruikshanks (secretary) were present.

It was announced that during 1912 the sum of £1,325 7s. 2d. had been added to the investments of the association. It was also announced that arrangements had been completed for the holding of the sixty-eighth annual festival of the fund at the Savoy Hotel on Tuesday, May 20 next, under the presidency of the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of London. Questions connected with the rules of the association were referred to the hon. solicitor (Mr. Theodore Lumley).

A candidate for membership of the association was unanimously elected. The secretary reported that the accounts of receipts and expenditure for the year 1912 had been submitted to the auditors, who had certified them as correct.

Mr. Chas. Coltson writes to acknowledge the receipt by the Actors' Benevolent Fund of £3 14s. from Mr. Martin Harvey, which he has further collected by sales of his autograph.

Miss Marie Tempest's evening triple bill performances at the Prince of Wales's ended on Saturday. On New Year's evening Miss Tempest enjoyed the patronage of Princess Henry of Battenberg, Prince Leopold, and Prince Maurice of Battenberg. Mr. Jerome K. Jerome's new play, provisionally entitled "Esther Castways," which Miss Tempest will produce at the Prince of Wales's on the 21st inst., will show her in a serious part. The piece is typical of American life, and it is in that environment that the action passes. Miss Rowena Jerome, daughter of the author, will appear in the play, the cast of which will include besides Miss Tempest, Miss Marie Polini, Miss Sybil Carlisle, Miss Drusilla Wills, Miss Kate Sergeantson, Mr. Charles V. France, Mr. Horton Cooper, and Mr. Graham Browne.

The Actresses' Franchise League are organising peaceful picketing of the House of Commons during the time the House is discussing the Reform Bill. The pickets will be women of every profession and occupation demanding enfranchisement, and this constitutional method of bringing the fact home to the House of Commons is being organised in order to show how widespread is the demand amongst actresses.

Many happy returns of the day to Mrs. Billington, whose eighty-eighth birthday took place on Saturday, when the fine old actress had kindly letters from Sir Herbert Tree, Sir Arthur and Lady Pinero, Sir Squire and Lady Bancoft, Miss Mary Anderson, Sir Charles Wyndham, and Mrs. Agnes Boucicault, who was the original Colleen Bawn to Mrs. Billington's Mrs. Cregan at the Adelphi.

That delightful function, the Actors' Association Ball, is fixed for the evening of Friday, Feb. 7, at the King's Hall, Holborn Restaurant. Sir Herbert Tree and Lady Tree and Mr. Cyril Maude are taking a great interest in the event, and Sir Herbert will preside at supper. In former years the ball has been so great a success that sums of £50 and £25 have been added to the A.A. exchequer. This year an even greater success is anticipated. Mr. John Mortimer is the chairman of the organising committee, a position he filled last year. All particulars of the ball and tickets may be obtained of the Actors' Association, 32, Regent-street.

A serious accident happened to Mr. T. W. Volt at Acton Town station on Monday. He had a most miraculous escape. As it is, he is much cut about the head, and the muscles of the back are severely bruised. He was taken to the Acton Cottage Hospital, where he is having every attention. An excellent constitution should help him to make a speedy recovery. The accident has been a severe shock to his devoted wife, Miss Nellie Bouverie, who, however, has pluckily held on to her part in "Where the Rainbow Ends" at the Garrick.

Mr. Rutland Barrington is to be seen in a new part at Oxford on Monday, when he will be the principal figure of a comedy by Mr. J. Storer Clouston, the well-known novelist. The piece will be produced under the direction of Mr. Eustace Burnaby, and after a short tour will be brought to the West-End.

Miss Cicely Hamilton, actress, journalist, and feminist lecturess, is the writer of the new play, "A Matter of Money," which Miss Edith Craig will produce for the Pioneer Players on Sunday, Feb. 2. It is in three acts, and was first performed under another name at the Repertory theatre in Glasgow. The cast will include: Miss Athel Warwick, Mr. Ben Webster, Miss Rosamund Belmore (aged 11 years, the descendant of three generations of good actors), Mr. Eric Albury, Miss Inez Bensusan, Mr. Edmond Breon, Miss Angela Colenzo, Mr. Ivan Firth, Miss Agnes Imlay, Miss Elaine Sleddall, Miss May Whitty, and Mr. Ernest Thesiger.

The O.P. Club have been fortunate enough to secure Miss Marie Tempest and Miss Marie Löhr as guests of the evening at their "Dialect Drama" dinner at the Hotel Cecil to-morrow. Miss Tempest will propose "Our American Cousins," Miss Löhr will give the "Health of the Chairman" (Lord Howard de Walden), and Mrs. Boucicault (Miss Agnes Robertson) will reply to the toast of "The Irish Drama." Mr. James Carew, Mr. Graham Moffat, Mr. Edmund Gwenn, and Mr. Stanley Houghton will be the principal responders.

Mr. Edmund Tearle's condition remains still unhanged.

Mr. F. R. Benson, in his four weeks' season at the Coronet, commencing on Feb. 3, will present "Henry V.," "Antony and Cleopatra," "A Midsummer Night's Dream," "The Taming of the Shrew," "Hamlet," "The Merchant of Venice," "Julius Cæsar," "Richard II.," "Macbeth," and "As You Like It." In addition, he will revive "She Stoops to Conquer" and Mrs. Peabody's prize play, "The Piper"—a "repertory" indeed!

"Drake" reaches its 150th performance at His Majesty's to-day. Upwards of a quarter of a million people have witnessed this patriotic play, and yet the box-office is still working overtime on the advance booking. Altogether, the figures are phenomenal, even for a success at His Majesty's.

A funny story is told by Miss Dolly Harmer of a well-known provincial actor playing in the stock season at Birmingham under the management of the late Andrew Melville. He had put up a piece called "The Raven's Nest," and had left the "tag" to the actor's discretion, but told him it must be something about the Raven's Nest. Night came, also the end of the play, and as the actor was bidding his wife and child a fond and tearful farewell, he could not, for the life of him, think of the name of the bird. In desperation, he finished the play with the following speech:—"Good-bye, all! Think of me sometimes, and when I am gone, put me—put me—where the crows can't get at me." It is not reported what Mr. Melville thought or said.

Mr. F. H. Payne's cast for "Billy's Fortune" at the Criterion on Thursday includes, besides Master Johnnie Brown, Mr. H. V. Surrey, Mr. O. B. Clarence, Mr. E. M. Robson, Mr. Rudge Harding, Mr. Arthur Vezin, Master Clifford Mollison, Master Christopher Saint-Eve, Master Jesson Roy, Mr. Heath J. Haviland, Mr. Howard Sturge, Mr. Philip K. Knox, Master Victor Wayne, Miss Gwynneth Galton, Miss Alice Beet, Miss Henrietta Leverett, Miss Gladys Mason, Miss Edna O'Neil, Miss Alice Mansfield, Miss Lydia West, Miss Sinna St. Clair, Miss Ella Tarrant, Miss Hetta Bartlett, Miss Elizabeth Rosslyn, and Miss G. Britton.

A meeting of the committee of the Touring Managers' Association was held on the 3rd inst. Present: Mr. A. Bertram (in the chair), Mr. E. E. Norris, Mr. Sam Livesey, Mr. Taylor Platt, Mr. F. Weathersby, Mr. G. B. Lambert, Mr. J. Forbes Knowles, Mr. G. Carlton Wallace, Mr. E. Graham Falcon, and Mr. Montgomery Martin (secretary). A member reported an actor for leaving without notice. The actor, having explained the reason for breaking his contract, which was that he had been kept without his salary till eleven p.m. on the Saturday, the secretary was directed to write and point out that a manager is within his rights in not paying till the Saturday night when the performance ends, but as a courtesy artistes are paid on the Friday, and the committee takes a very serious view of his conduct. A member complained about the damage to his scenery caused through faulty sheeting while in transit, and the secretary was directed to ask him for the correspondence with the railway company.

A meeting of the committee of the Managers' Club was held on the 3rd inst., when the following gentlemen were duly elected: Mr. Harry Ward, Mr. Leonard Neville, Mr. Tom Taylor, Mr. Arthur Gilman, Mr. Millar Anderson, and Mr. Joseph Millane.

Mr. Harry Nicholls, who cut the Baddeley cake at Drury Lane on Twelfth Night, in the presence of the principals in "The Sleeping Beauty," is the master of the fund of £100 which was invested by Robert Baddeley in 1796 for the purpose of providing the cake every year. This is the 113th year on which it has been cut at Drury Lane.

"The Babes in the Wood," the second of Messrs. M. Montgomery and E. C. Jazon's pantomimes this season at the Rotunda Theatre, Liverpool, will be produced on Monday. A year ago this pantomime had a long run at the North End house. Mr. E. C. Jazon has rewritten the book, and is stated to have brought it "right up to the moment." Miss Maude Beaumont returns to play Robin Hood; Miss Ruby Emmerson, Maid Marion; the Sisters St. Julien, Will Scarlett and Trixie; Messrs. Tom and Neil, Bubble and Squeak; Mr. Clarence Turner, James Page; Mr. Billy Curzon, Mary Ellen, "the maid of all work but her own"; and the children, Laurie and Elsie, as the Babes. Specialities will be introduced by the Rochester Sextette and the Eight Sunbeams.

Mr. Frederick Harrison, to meet the demand to see Stanley Houghton's sparkling three-act comedy, "The Younger Generation," has arranged to give extra matinées of the play every Thursday, beginning on Thursday, the 16th inst. The full programme will be played at these Thursday matinées as at the usual Wednesday and Saturday matinées, and will include "Aristide Pujol" as the first piece, and Miss Irene Vanbrugh in J. M. Barrie's delightful one-act comedy, "Rosalind."

Mr. Charles E. Bryant and the Russian actress, Miss Anna Nazimova, both of whom are appearing in the American production of "Bella Donna," were recently married.

Mr. Bryant toured for a few months, first with Mrs. Bandmann-Palmer, and then with Mrs. Patrick Campbell, as Gerald in "Lady Tetley's Divorce," and then played Laurence Trenwith in "Iris" at the Garrick in September, 1901. He afterwards toured for three years in England and America, and in March, 1905, appeared at the Haymarket as Lieutenant Richard Parkes in "Everybody's Secret," and in June as Valentine White in "The Cabinet Minister." After a tour in America Mr. Bryant joined Mr. Bourchier, and made a hit as Jérôme Le Govaine in "Samson." In March of 1909 he appeared as Macduff in "Macbeth." Other parts he has filled include Julian Rolfe in "The Woman in the Case," Archie Kingsford in Henry Arthur Jones's one-act piece, "The Knife," Tom Blake in "A Fool There Was," and at the Kingsway Nablotsky in "The Great Young Man." At the St. James's in December, 1911, Mr. Bryant created the part of Mahmoud Barondi in "Bella Donna."

Mlle. Nazimova was born in the Crimea, and was leading lady in St. Petersburg in 1904. She made her London début at the Avenue on Jan. 21, 1905, as Lia in "The Chosen People," a part in which she was to make her first appearance in New York, at the Herald-square Theatre. In May, 1906, she entered into a contract with Messrs. Shubert to play in English by the following November. She received her first lesson in English on June 23 of that year, and on Nov. 13 made her English-speaking début at the Princess's Theatre as Hedda Tesman in "Hedda Gabler," and also played Nora Helmer in "The Doll's House." In 1908 she made a long tour in the States.

"Jack Horner" continues to increase his circle of friends at the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, and the pantomime is being voted one of the most comical and generally entertaining that the popular Fraser-street house has known for some years. Mr. Ernie Mayne has won one of the most conspicuous hits in the country this season, and Miss Maidie Scott's characteristic cleverness and diverse ability assures her a legion of admirers.

So pronounced has been the success of the Moody-Manners grand opera season at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, that Mr. Charles Manners and Mr. W. W. Kelly have arranged for a season next Christmas of not less than eight weeks. The conspicuous feature of the season will be at least two performances of Wagner's "Ring of the Nibelungen," the copyright of which will expire at the end of this year.

The last week of the present season will open on Monday with "Maritana." On Tuesday Mlle. Zelie de Lussan will reappear as Carmen in Bizet's famous opera. "The Lily of Killarney" will be repeated on Wednesday afternoon in response to a number of requests from Liverpool tradespeople, who have asked for an afternoon performance of this work, because it is exceedingly difficult for tradespeople to reach the theatre in sufficient time in the evening to obtain an adequate position in the queues. In the evening "The Bohemian Girl" will be again given, and on the following evening a second performance of "Romeo and Juliet" will be offered. "Elijah," in its operaticised form, is the bill for Friday evening, and on the final day of the season "Samson and Delilah" (with Mlle. de Lussan as Delilah), will be given in the afternoon. "Faust" will bring the season to a close in the evening.

Mr. W. W. Kelly has arranged with Messrs. Harry Day and Edward Lauri to produce "Cinderella" at the New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead, on Monday. Eight fine scenes are promised, and the company includes Miss Empsie Bowman, Miss Rosalie Jacobi, Mr. George Bass, Mr. Jack Harris, and Mr. James Ross. Some interesting specialities are to be introduced.

"A Scrape o' the Pen" terminates its run at the Comedy Theatre on Saturday, after a run of twenty weeks, during which 161 performances have been given. The company opens at Kelly's Theatre, Liverpool, the following Monday, when the cast will be augmented by Mr. Watson Hume (the original Weelum in "Bunty Pulls the Strings" at the Haymarket Theatre), who will play Hugh. Both Mr. and Mrs. Moffat will rest during the week in Liverpool, but two excellent substitutes in the parts of Mattha and Leezie Inglis have been found in Mr. Walter Roy and Miss Mary Finlay.

Mr. Frank Marshall has received from Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree the following acknowledgment of a home welcome from Mr. Marshall:—"Thanks for kind greetings and good wishes. May you have every blessing in the New Year.—Tree."

Owing to the serious illness of Mr. Edmund Tearle, the bookings of "From Portland to Liberty," the play which will visit this country on Feb. 24 for sixteen weeks only, have been taken over by Mr. Arthur Jefferson.

Miss Angela Hope, who recently played Sombra and Crysea in "The Arcadians" on tour, is at present resting, and is not appearing in any pantomime.

At the conclusion of the run of "Red Riding Hood" at the Theatre Royal, Worthing, prior to going on a long tour, the following presentations were made to the members of Mr. C. Adolf Seebold's company:—Miss Rosa Charles (Robin Hood), a gold wrist watch; Miss Brownie (Maid Marion), gold earrings, with sapphire stones; Miss Rosslyn (Jack Horner), a gold brooch; and Miss Gracie Rosslyn (Red Riding Hood) and Miss Sylvia Rosslyn (Marjorie Daw) each a gold bracelet. Miss Rosa Charles made a speech, thanking, on behalf of the company, the audience for their kind appreciation and gifts. She said they had all done their best to make the pantomime a success, and had been greatly encouraged by Mr. Seebold, the best "boss" they had ever known. The audience then gave "three cheers" for Mr. and Mrs. Seebold with enthusiasm.

The cast of "The Other Lady," a farcical comedy by George Elton, to be produced at the West Pier, Brighton, on Monday, under the management of Mr. Nevill Graham and Miss Dorothy Dale, includes Mr. Leonard Calvert, Mr. Powis Pinder, Mr. Edward S. Petley, Mr. F. E. Brenan, Mr. John Beamish, Mr. Alfred Phillips, Mr. Arthur Hambling, Miss Dorothy Dale, Miss Una Gilbert, Miss Rita Sponti, Miss Renée de L'Estrade, and Miss Lilian Earle.

Mr. Millar Anderson has secured from Mr. Henry Arthur Jones the provincial and suburban rights of "Mrs. Dane's Defence," "The Liars," and "Joseph Entangled," which he will send on tour this spring with a West-End company, headed by Miss Mabel Mannering, the well-known emotional actress

Patrons of the Peterborough Theatre Royal were agreeably surprised at the reopening with "The Chocolate Soldier" on Monday evening. A fine vestibule and a winter garden lounge have been provided, and there are a new grand staircase, buffets, and retiring rooms. The old open fireplaces disappear, and hot-water radiators warm the entire block. The stage and dressing-rooms have also been extensively improved. Mr. A. D. Vernon ceases to be manager, and he has let the theatre for stage plays on a long lease to Colonel Winstanley.

"Get-Rich-Quick Wallingford," the American farce, which is to be produced at the Queen's Theatre next Tuesday, was given its first performance in England last Monday night at the Pleasure Gardens Theatre, Folkestone. Amongst the audience were Mr. Arthur Collins, Mr. George Dance, Mr. Henry Hamilton, Mr. Cecil Raleigh, Mr. Edgar Cohen, Mr. Grant Allen, and Mr. Joyce.

Mr. Wentworth Croke has made such a success with his "Jack and the Beanstalk" pantomime at the Elephant and Castle Theatre this year that Mr. Charles Barnard has arranged with Mr. Croke to provide his next year's attraction. This will be Mr. Croke's fourth consecutive pantomime at this popular house.

Mr. Herbert Sleath will send on tour, starting on Aug. 4, to all the best twice-nightly towns, his own company in "A White Man." This company will consist of picked artistes, personally rehearsed by Mr. Sleath, and will travel the original Lyric Theatre production and effects.

Miss Hilda Spong, who has, for the past twelve months, been fulfilling a starring engagement in Australia with the Williamson, Meynell, and Clarke manageemnt, is returning to England, and will arrive in London on or about Feb. 1.

"GENERAL JOHN REGAN."

Irish Comedy, in Three Acts, by George A. Manchester, Produced at the Apollo Theatre on Thursday, Jan. 9.

Dr. Lucius O'Grady ....Mr. Charles Hawtrey
Timothy Doyle .....Mr. Leonard Boyne
Major Kent .....Mr. Franc Stoney
Thaddeus Golligher .....Mr. W. G. Fay
Horace P. Billing .....Mr. Henry Wenman
C. Gregg .....Mr. J. R. Tozer
Sergeant Colgan .....Mr. S. Grenville Darling
Constable Moriarty .....Mr. Patrick Quill
Tom Kerrigan .....Mr. Bernard Crosby
Rev. Father McCormack..Mr. Edmund Gurney
Lord Alfred Blakeney ..Mr. A. Vane-Tempest
Mrs. de Courcy .....Miss Gladys Ffolliot
Mrs. Gregg .....Miss Dorothy O'Neill
Mary Ellen .....Miss Cathleen Nesbit

Peasants:—Messrs. T. Rivers, Hughbert Dane, Patrick Traynor, Albert Dudley, Eric Howard, Patrick Duigan, B. Butler, S. J. Chamberlain, &c., Misses Hilary Jesmond, Gladys Preston, Kate Martin, Irene L'Estrange, Olga Hope, Phyllis Barker, Mary Ervine, M. Wells, E. Temple, M. Summerley, M. Duigan, B. Fay, D. Snow, C. Moore, B. Courtenay, &c.

Mr. George A. Manchester (otherwise the Rev. J. O'Hannay) has written a very amusing Irish comedy, which, at its production at the Apollo Theatre on Thursday evening, was exceedingly well received. Those who enjoy a good laugh should not fail to make the early acquaintance of "General John Regan"—the play, not the General himself, because, strange to say, he was never in existence.

When Mr. Horace P. Billing, an American tourist, arrives in his motor-car at the town of Ballymoy, Ireland, he comes to the conclusion that it is "the most one-eyed place he ever struck," and he at once sets to work to liven up things. He makes inquiries concerning a certain General John Regan, the "deliverer of the Republic of Bolivia," whose life, he explains, he is writing. He has learnt that the famous General was born at Ballymoy; but it is not until Dr. Lucius O'Grady makes his appearance that he gleans any information about the soldier hero. The dispensary doctor apparently knows all about the deceased General, and points out the site of the house, no longer standing, where the illustrious deliverer of Bolivia was born. Mary Ellen, the little maid-servant at Doyle's Hotel, is a descendant of the General's, and the American at once pays her respectful homage. He expresses his astonishment that no statue has been raised to the General's memory in his native town. Dr. O'Grady takes the hint, and it is decided that a subscription list shall be opened at once, the American heading it with the handsome sum of £100. The doctor goes to work with the utmost enthusiasm, and makes arrangements for the unveiling of the statue by no less a personage than the Lord-Lieutenant himself. The departure of Mr. Billing without having paid his promised contribution causes considerable consternation; but the doctor meets in the most breezy manner the various difficulties which arise in the way of carrying out the project to do honour to the General's memory. Timothy Doyle, the hotel keeper, pesters him for the £30 which is owing, the fiery editor of the local paper is difficult to manage, the ladies who are concerned in the scheme quarrel over Mary Ellen's dress for the important occasion, and the local landlord, Major Kent, raises all kinds of objections. The doctor triumphs over all the obstacles placed in his way. A statue, originally intended for another deceased General, is obtained from Dublin, and duly erected in the market square.

When everything is ready for the ceremony of unveiling, there arrives in the place of the Lord-Lieutenant his aide-de-camp, Lord Alfred Blakeney, who conveys to Dr. O'Grady a message that his superior is very indignant at the attempt which has been made to hoodwink him. The existence of such a person as General John Regan is doubtful; and ultimately the American declares that the General is his own creation, but he believes that Dr. O'Grady is quite capable of giving reality to the supposed hero. Moreover, he is willing to give a cheque for the cost of building a pier, which is wanted at Ballymoy. Lord Alfred is compelled to make a speech, and the doctor emerges triumphantly from all his difficulties.

From the very beginning Mr. Charles Hawtrey's Irish doctor was a source of delight. Mr. Horace P. Billing soon discovered that Dr. Lucius O'Grady was the only "live man" in Ballymoy. The audience just as quickly realised that he was not only very much alive, but that the Ballymoy doctor was an exceedingly amusing personage, possessing the well-marked characteristics of the true Irishman. That Mr. Hawtrey was fitted with a part in which he would be seen at his very best was evident before the first act was half over; and it was to a pleasant accompaniment of mingled laughter and applause that the doctor "made good," as the American tourist, Mr. Billing, would have expressed it. Mr. Hawtrey's delightfully racy sketch of Irish character is decidedly one of those things that should not be missed. No less real was the Timothy Doyle of Mr. Leonard Boyne, who may be heartily congratulated on his extremely successful portrayal of the Irish hotel keeper, whose intense anxiety to recover the money owing him by the doctor is so amusingly emphasised. The audience gave Mr. Boyne a very cordial reception. Mr. Franc Stoney did well in the rôle of the local landlord, Major Kent, who consistently opposes the doctor's proposals. Mr. W. G. Fay added greatly to the fun by his capital embodiment of Thaddeus Golligher, the editor of the "Connaught Eagle," an excitable little man who loses no opportunity of declaiming on the wrongs of the Irish people, and the anticipated blessings conferred by Home Rule. Mr. Henry Wenman played excellently the part of Horace P. Billing, whose project of waking up Ballymoy is successfully accomplished. As the Rev. Father McCormack, the parish priest, Mr. Edmund Gurney gave a neat and effective character-sketch; and Mr. A. Vane-Tempest was amusing as the Lord-Lieutenant's aide-de-camp, Lord Alfred Blakeney, the official manner being very happily imitated. Worthy of praise was also Mr. J. R. Tozer's District Inspector of Royal Irish Constabulary; the Sergeant Colgan of Mr. Grenville Darling; and the Constable Moriarty of Mr. Patrick Quill. Mr. Bernard Crosby was good as Tom Kerrigan, bandmaster; Miss Cathleen Nesbit played with a real sense of humour the part of Mary Ellen, the servant at Doyle's Hotel; Miss Gladys Ffolliot as Mrs. de Courcy, wife of the resident magistrate; and Miss Dorothy O'Neill as Mrs. Gregg made the most of their opportunities.

The verdict in favour of the new production appeared to be unanimous, and Mr. Hawtrey brought on the author, who bowed his acknowledgments.

The comedy was preceded by a new one-act play, adapted from the French of D. Riche, by Athol Stewart, entitled

"THROUGH THE POST."

Edward Stacy Spells ..Mr. George F. Tully
Lilian Stacy Spells .....Miss Mona Harrison
George Binning .....Mr. Edgar B. Payne

Owing to incompatibility of temper, Mr. and Mrs. Spells separate. The husband, as the result of an advertisement, gets into correspondence with a "lady" who describes herself. Numerous letters having passed, the lady agrees to visit him, and he makes the discovery that it is his own wife he has been writing to all this time in a disguised hand, she having adopted the same artifice. The couple become reconciled; but Mrs. Spells has a mania for re-arranging the furniture; this, indeed, is one of the chief reasons why they disagreed. He finds that Lilian has the same weakness, and very soon they quarrel again. The lady finally takes her departure, with the words "Teddy, don't forget to write to me." This bright and pleasing little piece was capitally played by Mr. George F. Tully as the husband, Miss Mona as the furniture-moving wife, and Mr. Edgar B. Payne as a mutual friend.

"PADLOCK DOMES;

OR, WHO STOLE THE JAPANESE PAPER BASKET?"

A Hitherto Unpublished Episode in the Life of the Great Detective. Skit, by Charles Leftwich, Produced on Tuesday, Jan. 7, at the Rehearsal Theatre.

Padlock Domes .....Mr. Charles Leftwich
Dr. Jotson .....Mr. Hubert Woodward
Billikin ..... Master Andrew Baird
Mr. B. Lowe Parr .....Mr. Leslie Kyle
Professor Notoriety ..Mr. Wilfred S. Stanford
Murgatroyd Parr .....Miss Grace Vicat

Few stories offer such rich opportunities of burlesque as Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes series. Indeed, the wily detective himself, with his sleuthhound proclivities, his wonderful powers of deduction, his unerring instinct, and his unfailing tact, is an easy prey to the lampoonist. Mr. Charles Leftwich, who introduced him to a fashionable audience at the Rehearsal Theatre, Maiden-lane, on Tuesday evening under the name of "Padlock Domes," has done his spiriting gently. He has given us an investigator who snaps at a corollary, or builds up a thesis of crime on the instant. True, his deductions are on the two-and-two-are-four principle, and his conclusions irresistibly simple, perfectly obvious, and inevitably true. His faithful friend, Dr. Jotson, is obsessed with admiration for him. Indeed, no exponent of the value of intuitive perception in any corner of the earth could have handled the startlingly sudden disappearance of Mr. B. Lowe Parr's waste-paper basket with such comic certitude as Padlock Domes. We discover him in the gayest of patchwork dressing gowns, seated in his apartment in Bakerloo-street. He for a moment deceives his *fidus Achates*, Dr. Jotson, by his protean proclivities, but no one can mistake the inscrutable mystery solver, with his pipe. His meditative mood is disturbed by the agitated entrance of Mr. B. Lowe Parr, of the Stock Exchange, who mourns the sudden disappearance of his green Japanese wastepaper backet. Parr lives at Stoke Fungus, to which town there are at least three or four trains a week. So great is Parr's agitation that he has hurried up to town in pyjamas and bath slippers. Every minute is of importance, and the next train has to be caught by Domes.

In the second scene he is searching for clues in Parr's study, which is more or less decorated in purple and green, these Suffragette colours prevailing in the socks that the unhappy and distressed owner of the paper basket is wearing. "What is Life Without a Vote?" a legend prominently displayed in the study, gives the imperturbable Domes a clue at any rate to the political views of Mrs. Parr, who speedily sets any doubt at rest when, mounted on a table, she makes a militant speech in her best Trafalgar-square manner. The story of Jack and Jill admirably illustrates her theories. Mrs. Parr's hat, it appears, has been irretrievably ruined at a Suffragette demonstration, and as her dress allowance has been stopped, she has nothing in the way of headgear to go out in. Brilliant idea of Domes! He sends a bogus telegram summoning her to a meeting, and waits events. She must go at once, and when she re-appears, wearing the green Japanese paper basket as a hat, the final triumph of Domes is reached, and the curtain falls on reconciliation and restoration.

The incidents of Padlock's "defective" career are brightly touched upon by the author, and the satire of his cocksure methods as they were detailed in the "Strand Magazine" is laughably effective. The constant admiration and wonderment of Dr. Jotson also strike a comic note, which might, however, be more accentuated in the business with Professor Notoriety (our old friend Moriarty), the "it" of crime. Notoriety, with a marrow-freezing determination to be revenged on the great baffler of crime, is invariably "held up" by the green limelight. "That green lime again!" will have droller significance when the piece enjoys the advantages of greater possibilities in the way of lighting effects.

The company worked loyally together, and in consequence the burlesque trifle went with wonderful smoothness. The author played his own creation of the detective, doing fairly well. Mr. Hubert Woodward was responsible for effective work as Dr. Jotson; Mr. Wilfred S. Stanford was vigorously melodramatic as Notoriety; and Mr. Leslie Kyle, with a good comic make-up, realised cleverly the mock-serious vein of B. Lowe Parr. Miss Grace Vicat was decidedly amusing as the Suffragette wife, the burlesque harangue on the woman's vote question making quite a hit.

To the pleasant concert that preceded and followed the sketch Miss Dorothy Clarkson, accompanied by her sister, contributed highly appreciated violin solos; Miss Van der Beeck charmed in two German songs; Mr. Selwyn Driver, at the piano, had to lengthen his humorous entertainment in answer to an encore; and Mr. B. Franklin Taylor afforded much pleasure by his excellent singing.

The latest recruit to the ranks of playwrights is King Nicholas of Montenegro, who has sent a patriotic piece to Mr. J. T. Grein, who speaks very highly of it.

Excellent work for the stage is being done by Mrs. Caleb Porter, the artistic dressmaker of 175, Brompton-road. The firm has executed the old ladies' and the distinctive dresses for the last act of "Milestones," not only for production at the Royalty, but for the tours, which have extended to America and Australia. Mrs. Porter has recently done all the costumes for Mr. Houghton's play, "The Younger Generation," at the Haymarket, and is being entrusted with a good deal of work requiring character, i.e., dresses to match the dialogue.

There was, at one time, a question of transferring "The Glad Eye" from the Strand Theatre to another house, to make room for the new play, by Gladys Unger, now in course of preparation. Mr. Louis Meyer has, however, now decided to withdraw his wonderfully successful farce towards the end of the present month, when it will have completed a richly prosperous career of fifteen months. The piece is still attracting such large audiences to the Strand, and, moreover, the demand in advance for seats furnishes such convincing proof of unimpaired vitality, that Mr. Meyer has in view the revival of "The Glad Eye" every Christmas as a regular feature of the holiday season.

In connection with "The Son and Heir," which is to be the next production at the Strand, it is worthy of note that, although it is presently to be seen for the first time, Gladys Unger wrote it two and a half years ago. The fact is interesting in view of the theme of the play. In its representation a strong company of players will be concerned, including Mr. Norman Trevor, Mr. Edmund Maurice, Mr. Reginald Owen, Mr. Raymond Lauzerte, Master Bobby Andrews, Miss Cynthia Brooke, Miss Jean Cadell, Miss Ethel Dane, and Miss Ethel Irving.

THE DRAMA IN PARIS.

"LA MAIN MYSTERIEUSE."

Play, in Three Acts, by Fred, Amy, and Jean Marsèle, Produced at the Athénée, on Jan. 9.

Comtesse Mirandol .....Mme. Leriche
Geneviève .....Mlle. Devimeur
La Boulouzoni .....Mlle. Loury
Mme. Murdignton .....Mlle. Yvonne Andrée
Edith .....Mlle. Frémaux
Coralie .....Mlle. Rose Grane
Sir Francis Zettorn .....M. Guy
Georgie .....M. Harry Baur
Sam Crookwell .....M. Gallet
Peeryple .....M. Coeuille
André Burtin .....M. de Garcin
Dolisson .....M. Lecoq

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

PARIS, Thursday, Jan. 9.—This detective story, with a strong dose of sentiment thrown in, met with a most cordial reception. The work might almost be termed a vaudeville, on account of the curious situations which the authors have introduced therein, for it cannot be denied that the stage-burglar has, within recent years, undergone a strange metamorphosis. He has become a funny man, and so has the detective, who tries—generally in vain—to catch him; and so has the Judge before whom the farcical housebreaker is tried; and so has the detective's wife; the burglar's fiancée—they all have to be funny nowadays if the piece is to find favour in the eyes of the public. The heroine in "La Main Mystérieuse" is a middle-aged lady, the Comtesse Mirandol, a very wealthy French widow, residing in Philadelphia, where she has earned for herself the reputation of being the most eccentric, and, at the same time, the most charitable person in the United States. She has a daughter, Geneviève, a charming girl, courted by Georgie, a young idiot, anxious of becoming her husband. Geneviève, however, has lost her heart to André Burtin, and the latter loves her to distraction. For all that, he cannot ask for her hand, and, under the seal of secrecy, he tells her why. He is a kind of amateur detective, the son of a famous French detective, and he has come to Philadelphia to discover the criminals, who, in the entourage of the Comtesse de Mirandol, commit one burglary after another. The culprits, however, are not to be caught, and their exploits become more daring every day. At a soirée at the Comtesse's house, whilst the guests are in the park, a masked individual opens the bags which the ladies have left in the drawing-room, and extracts therefrom all the valuables they contained. In the second act we are on board the Comtesse de Mirandol's yacht, Mlle. Boulouzoni, a celebrated Italian prima-donna, and her fiancé, are among the guests. The prima donna has asked her hostess to take charge of her valuable jewels, and the latter has locked them in her safe. When, however, after a while, Mme. de Mirandol opens the safe all the pearls and diamonds have disappeared, together with Mme. de Mirandol's banknotes. There is a great outcry on board, and the guests begin to suspect the Italian prima donna, when, to their surprise, they see a man, his face begrimed with coal dust, emerge from the stoker's hole, enter Mme. de Mirandol's cabin, examine the safe, and again disappear as mysteriously as he came. This time there can be no doubt. It is he who committed the robberies. In the final tableau we are in Mme. de Mirandol's villa in Atlantic City. André Burtin is more than ever convinced that the Italian prima donna belongs to the gang, and he is on the point of taking her seriously in hand when a stranger, calling himself Sir Francis Zettorn, wants to see him. The visitor is introduced, and whilst we recognise in him the man begrimed in coal dust whom we saw on the yacht, André recognises in him his own father, the famous detective, Guichard. The latter, too, has been hunting the mysterious burglars, and the moment the Comtesse de Mirandol accidentally enters the room they both give a start. When they are alone the expert detective compels her to confess that it is she who is the culprit, whereupon the thief-catcher at once comes to the conclusion that this pseudo-countess is no other than Mme. Lupin, the widow of Arsène Lupin, the celebrated burglar. Guichard's duty is to bring her to justice; but when he learns that André, his son, is in love with the charming Geneviève, he decides not to molest her. But Mme. de Mirandol, alias Mme. Lupin, confesses everything to her guests. In fact, she does this with a certain amount of pride, for we now learn, and not without surprise, that if the noble countess laid her pretty hands on things that did not belong to her, she did so from charitable motives, and the poor had the full benefit of the robberies she committed. The work was capitally played.

A great deal of fuss—and unnecessary fuss, too—is made in the theatrical world about Mlle. Géniat leaving the Comédie-Française, leaving it in a rather brusque and unceremonious manner. Mlle. Géniat shrugs her fair shoulders and speaks of the House in a rather patronising manner. She did not even give the management the "week's notice," which we offer to our cooks. The charming young actress has a contract with the "House," but, "elle s'en fiche." She says she can do better elsewhere, and she trips away, "à l'Anglaise," as we say here. The reasons she gives for doing so are not, I must admit, very convincing. Mlle. Géniat forgets that she owes the Comédie-Française a debt, a deep debt, of gratitude. She forgets that there is a prestige about the Théâtre-Française of which its members reap the benefit. Whatever fame she acquired she owes it to that house, and in no other theatre would she have appeared before the public in so many important and interesting rôles. When she first joined the Comédie-Française she was not a great favourite with the public, for she had many little faults and defects that interfered with her acting. But by dint of hard work she overcame these defects, and, thanks to the good advice given her, and which she followed, she soon acquired fame, and authors were glad to give her the most important rôles. All this she owes to the house. Yet to-day she complains that "she had not enough to do," and was kept idle! It remains now to be seen whether Mlle. Géniat is right in turning her back on our first dramatic stage.

The other night, at the Odéon, during a performance of "Faust," a dense smoke invaded the house, but as this happened during the Walpurgis night scene the public thought that this evil-smelling smoke was drafted into the hall from the stage, and emanated from the witches. As it turned out, the witches had no hand in this. A lady's fur in the cloak-room had caught fire, and hence the trouble. It was fortunate that the audience were not aware of this, or there might have been a panic.

It is rumoured that Mlle. Marthe Brandès, who, as will be remembered, suddenly left the Comédie-Française, intends to return there—supposing they admit her. It would be a wise step on Mlle. Brandès' part.

On her return to Paris Mme. Sarah Bernhardt will revive M. Emile Bergerat's "Plus que Reine," with M. Lou Tellegen in the rôle of Napoleon.

Mr. J. Leicester Jackson, the energetic managing-director of the Alexandra Theatre, Belfast, was presented on the stage on Saturday with a beautiful gold watch by Mr. and Mrs. Chalmers Mackay as a mark of esteem for the courtesy extended to them during their company's two weeks' engagement at the Alexandra. Mr. Jackson suitably acknowledged the handsome gift.

MISS VIOLET DENZEL.

BALLERINA ASSOLUTA.

Whilst sojourning in that Land of Sunny Skies, Italy, not long ago, the writer halted for a brief space at Milan: and one evening visited that Home of the Ballet, the Opera House. "Scana"—a picturesque ballet with a generous Tzigani leaven—was being presented; and it was observable that the crowded audience singled out for especial notice the performance of one dancer in particular. A reference to the programme revealed that the young lady's name was Miss Violet Denzel, and that she was described as "English." As the young dancer's exposition of Terpsichorean skill was decidedly clever and charming, a mental note of the circumstance was made by the writer: and upon the occasion of "The Era" representative recently visiting the London Opera House, in Kingsway, he quickly discerned, in the person of the premier danseuse in the picturesque scena, "The Magic Bell," his Milan acquaintance of not long ago.

"Ah! We meet 'neath leaden skies, now," sighed the accomplished dancer, as she sat reclining in a "cosy corner" of her drawing-room and petulantly tapped the floor with a dainty foot. "But"—brightening—"one cannot for ever—and especially a girl with English claims upon her time—hope to reside in the Sunny South; and so we must be philosophical—Eh! Well, Signor, though Italy is a land dearly love, yet she thought very much contents me that I am entirely trained for dancing in London under the skilled and painstaking Mlle. Leoffler.

Photo by Hana.

Miss VIOLET DENZEL.

"Patriotism refreshing as rare in this particular connection!"

"Yes, I suppose it is; and I recall"—with a merry laugh—"a no doubt well intentioned friend strongly urged me to add the letter 'i' to my name; but I absolutely refused. I am a Devonshire lass, and proud of the fact; and proud, also—if I may please state it—of my dancing successes, not only in London and the Provinces, but in Milan, Genoa, Turin, Florence, Paris, &c.: for I am now styled Ballerina Assoluta, under the terms of my recent Contract to appear in the principal European Capitals during the course of the next three years—really a thirty weeks' 'season' engagement during each year."

"Excellente, Signora!"

"Tanti grazie, Sig and now to return to my English activities. I played a little part in 'Where Children Rule, at the Garrick. This was in 1910. I was the Fairy Queen in 'Alice in Wonderland' at the Savoy, and later I went to Liverpool as solo dancer in this production. An engagement at the Court Theatre in London followed; and then I returned to the Savoy to play the Blue Bird as the Première Danseuse in that charming classical ballet, 'The Seasons.'"

"During an engagement in Paris a well-known Ballet Master of the Italian 'school" saw my performance, and he made an attractive offer for a Continental tour: and it was during the fulfilment of my engagement at Milan you first saw me."

"I believe the Russian School of Dancing owes much to the Italian?"

"I believe one may say everything. Indeed, I think it may be averred that the Russian style originated from the Italian school of technique.

"As to the future, I am fulfilling an engagement in Paris in the early Spring; and somewhat later, as I have already mentioned, I enter upon my three years' Continental engagement."

THE IBSEN CLUB.

A musical programme, under the direction of Miss Catherine Robertson, was given at the Ibsen Club on Tuesday evening. The pianoforte soli of Mr. A. S. Grahame were the feature of the entertainment, his Impromptu by Chopin presenting him with an excellent opportunity of displaying his polished technique and brilliant powers of expression. Vocal items were rendered by Miss Catherine Robertson and Mr. Raymond Douglas. Miss Robertson possesses a soprano voice of useful range and many pleasing qualities, but her efforts on Tuesday gave one the opinion that either she was extremely nervous or that her selections were not, in some cases, entirely suitable to her. Further experience will doubtless remedy her inclination to "clip" long notes and to affect a few unbecoming gestures. The other vocalist, Mr. Raymond Douglas, was evidently suffering from a cold, but he, too, would do much better if he abandoned the facial affectations, unfortunately so common among many other talented tenors.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. G. W. Reeves, comedian, for many years at the Surrey Theatre, under the management of the late Mr. W. Holland, and at the Elephant and Castle, the Novelty and Toole's Theatres, who died on Thursday morning, at his residence, 15, Dolben-street, Blackfriar's-road, at the age of sixty-one.

Excellent was the acting at the Christmas entertainment at St. Bartholomew's Hospital, which possesses a really live dramatic club. The piece selected was R. C. Carton's "Liberty Hall." This year there were no ladies in the cast, so the male students took the parts. Blanche and Amy Chilworth were well represented. One of the best played characters was the Miss Hickson of Mr. R. S. Morshead, and Mr. Barnsley made a splendid old man. The Musical Society performed selections at intervals.

Mr. George Dance's "Quaker Girl" company is again at the Newcastle Royal this week, and good business is being done. The cast includes:—Messrs. Jack Gray, Fred Monti, G. McCloskie, Frederick Hobbs, Henry Adnes, J. Lennox, John Duncan, Glen Owen, and William Greene; and Misses Hilda Stuart, Doris Dennis, Ivy Harcourt, Jenny Armstrong, May Marshall, Kitty Develin, Lucille Vivien, Lily Green, Cissie Guiver, Hilda Bellamy, Ida Harvey, Adela Crispin.

"ROBINSON CRUSOE."

AT THE SHAKESPEARE, CLAPHAM JUNCTION.

Robinson Crusoe ..... Miss Eva Kelland
Polly Hopkins ..... Miss Germaine Arnoux
Will Atkins ..... Mr. W. A. Haines
Mrs. Crusoe ..... Mr. Herbert Williams
Davy Jones ..... Mons. Stefan Halle
Captain and Mate .... Rezene and Robini
Princess Sumurun ..... Mlle. de Sehgue
King Co Co Nut .... Mr. George Barlow
Bob Mainstay .... Miss Josie Hammersley
Nancy Lee ..... Miss Cicely Debenham
Jeremiah Hopkins ..... Mr. Leonard Way
Fairy Aphrodite ..... Miss Ethel Mackay
Tom Tugg ..... Miss Martha Vigo
Friday ..... Espinosa

Produced on Christmas Eve, Mr. Durrant Swan's beautiful production is having a very successful run. The pantomime is divided into two parts, now the prevailing fashion among London Yuletide productions, and, as far as the story itself goes, it is possible that the Wizard of Cripplegate, City, Daniel Defoe, were he to see it, might fail to catch the work as his own immortal, but he would acknowledge the spirit of it, and join in the continuous and hearty applause that heralds every succeeding scene, every song, every grouping, the music, and the work of the very capable artistes whom Mr. Durrant Swan has gathered round him and his two hard-working and enthusiastic lieutenants. Written by Mrs. Ernest Carpenter and Mr. E. Espinosa, the story germinates in the first scene, Davy Jones' Locker, a fine piece of work from Leolyn Hart's studios. The next scene introduces us to many of the merry choristers. Miss Eva Kelland, exhilarating and comely, looking the traditional figure of Robinson, and a most capable actress and singer, delights her hearers with "Take me back to the garden of love," and is followed by Mr. Herbert Williams, who, as Mrs. Crusoe, introduces the number, "The dear old perambulator." Robinson determines to run off and be a sailor, and Polly Hopkins, impersonated by fascinating Miss Germaine Arnoux, to cheer her lover, sings "Keep on squeezing me, Charlie." but "Robbie," in spite of every invitation, is determined. Towards the end of the scene Miss Kelland sings the popular "Who were you with last night?" with a chorus grouped about her. The vivacious and sprightly Will Atkins, admirably played by Mr. W. A. Haines, vows his vow against the harmless Robinson, and a grand finale ends the scene. There never was two such pals as Bob Mainstay and Nancy Lee, and Miss Josie Hammersley as Bob, and Miss Cicely Debenham as Nancy, are to be congratulated. The twain introduce "I'd like to go on a honeymoon." Robbie's mother is determined to follow her boy, despite the threats of Will, and, having squared mother, the couple attempt to sing a political song, which is not accomplished without trouble. Polly follows her Robbie, and now we find her in the garb of a picturesque cabin boy. Both meet on board the "Saucy Sal," and Robinson tells "him" of the little girl he has left behind, and how much he loves her. Robbie sings "My boy" excellently, and effective is the meeting on deck of mother and son. Mr. Herbert Williams' presence is infectious, and the house roars. The Wreck of the "Saucy Sal" follows, and the open sea, showing Robinson Crusoe alone on the water, is a fine bit of stagecraft. The Raft Scene, with four of the ship's company, is an excuse for the production of telescopes, through which present and future events, looming on the political horizon, are seen. The salving of those we want to see saved is accomplished, and with the Coral Realms, a gem of a scene, the first part ends, with a magnificent grouping of some two hundred people and a spirited chorus.

In the ninth scene the company meet on the desert island. Lots of dash, colour, and sprightliness develop in this scene; but the most notable happening is the meeting of Man Friday and Robinson. Mr. Espinosa is a savage of the forest, not him of the pantomime, and a greater contrast could not be conceived; it is a fine performance, admirable, and instructive. Mrs. Crusoe and the rest have many opportunities for breaking out into song, not even to the exclusion of our Will, who, aided with a coloured setting, tells us about "The wibbly wobbly walk." Mrs. Crusoe, in the succeeding forest scene, quaintly sings "Woolloomooloo." The King's Palace, a gorgeous scene, brings things to a climax, and everyone is rewarded lavishly, even the redoubtable Will Atkins

Mr. W. A. Haines plays the part of Will Atkins excellently, and he has two capital assistants in Messrs. Rezene and Robini, who indulge in much knockabout business as the Captain and the Mate. Mr. George Barlow satisfactorily essays King Co Co Nut, whose daughter, the Princess Sumurun, is played by Mlle. de Sehgue, one of the most artistic and finished of modern dancers. Davy Jones is interpreted by Mons. Stefan Halle, and expert dancer, who gives an interesting interpretation; whilst the Fairy Aphrodite is impersonated by Miss Ethel Mackay, who possesses a singularly good voice, which aids her in playing the part with distinction. There is a full operatic chorus and corps de ballet of some one hundred and fifty. The ballet music has been specially written by Mr. Arthur Wood, and the dresses designed and executed by Clarkson. The scenery is new and comes from the Leolyn Hart studios. Whilst the highest possible praise must be meted out to Mr. Durrant Swan for his enterprise, Mr. Harry Barford and Espinosa are to be congratulated on their share in the success of the production. Mr. Frank Bradsell conducts the excellent orchestra.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

"The Independent Theatre-goer." Conducted by J. T. Grein and Hermann Klein. Forty-eight pages. Price 2d. Published by Odhams, Ltd.

The British Empire Shakespeare Society. "Hamlet," with glossary edited by Howard de Walden and Acton Bond. 175 pages. Price 6d. net. Published by George Routledge and Sons, Ltd.

"Willing's Press Guide for 1913." Price 1s. Published by James Willing, Ltd.

"The Wreck of the Titanic." Treated in verse by Edwin Drew, with portraits. Forty-six pages. Price 6d. Published by W. Nicholson and Sons, Ltd.

"Some Aspects of Gipsy Music." By D. C. Parker. Sixty-one pages. Price 1s. net. Published by Wm. Reeves.

"The Indian Theatre." By E. P. Horrwitz. 215 pages. Price 2s. 6d. net. Published by Blackie and Son.

"The Poetry Review." Edited by Stephen Phillips, for January. Forty-six pages. Price 6d net. Published by the Poetry Society.

"The Guide to South and East Africa." 1913 edition. Price 1s. net. 695 pages. Illustrated with maps. Published by Sampson Low, Marston and Co.

Mr. Fred. W. Millis is now representing the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States, Cecil House, Charing Cross-road.

"What Women Will Do for Love" has been played this week at the Great Yarmouth Royal Aquarium by Mr. Wilson Howard's company, including Misses Carlotta Anson, Madge Clare, Florence Daly, Messrs. Wilson Howard, Fred C. Ingleby, Frank Hertie, Gerald Smythe, Carl Vallender, Ambrose Horton, Geo. Spreeve, A. E. Rose, H. Pitt, J. Leicester, and T. H. Winter.

DEATH OF MISS MAUD HOBSON.

We regret to announce the death on Monday of Miss Maud Hobson, niece of the late Mr. John Hollingshead, an old Gaiety favourite, who was very popular under the managements of Mr. George Edwardes and Messrs. A. and S. Gatti. She was an Australian by birth, and began her stage career in 1885, leaving the chorus at the Gaiety to marry Captain Hayley, of the 11th Hussars, and accompanying him to Honolulu, where he acted as Chief Minister to King Kalakana of Hawaii. She returned to the Gaiety company after the death of her husband, playing parts like Lord Taplow in "Cinder-Ellen up Too Late." In 1888 Miss Hobson appeared in "Faust Up-to-Date," with Miss St. John as Marguerite, Miss Cameron as Faust, and Mr. Lonnen as Mephistopheles. She acted in "Carmen Up-to-Data" as Morales, with Miss Letty Lind, Mr. Arthur Williams, and Miss St. John, and also appeared in "Ruy Blas," "A Gaiety Girl," "Three Little Maids," "A Runaway Girl," "The Geisha," "A Night Out," "The Brixton Burglary," "The Messenger Boy," and other pieces. Her performances in "In Town" at the Prince of Wales's in 1892, and "Three Little Maids" at the Apollo in 1902, were pleasing and clever. Miss Hobson had a handsome appearance, and an amiable personality, and was an intelligent and agreeable actress.

Photo by Hana.

The late MISS MAUD HOBSON.

DRAMA IN VIENNA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

On Dec. 23, at the Hofburg-Theatre, a new play by the young Hungarian dramatist, Franz Molnar, was presented, entitled "The Story of the Wolf." The author has already produced several plays, and is already classed among the most talented of the younger playwrights. The present play has jealousy for its motive. Dr. Kelemen, who is morbidly jealous of his pretty and clever wife, Vilma, gets her to confess that a certain young man named Georg Szabo once pleaded for her love, and that she still possesses a letter from him in which he declared that he had gone forth into the wide world for the purpose of gaining fame as warrior, artist or otherwise, after which he will return and claim her hand. Dr. Kelemen laughs over his letter, and going to see his little son put to bed he tells the child the latter's favourite tale of the wolf who seized the one beloved lamb of a poor shepherd. The wife also listens to the tale, and then goes to sleep. She begins to dream. She seems to be at an evening party where she meets her former lover. He appears in succession as a riding-master, an attaché, a celebrated singer, and finally as a servant in livery, and in all these characters he makes violent love to Vilma. So carried away is she by his passion that her scruples are ovecome at last, and she throws her arms round his neck. Just then her maid raps at the door, and Vilma wakes up. In the next scene the real Szabo appears. He has become a country solicitor, and visits Vilma's husband on a matter of business. His provincial dress and clownish manners repulse Mrs. Kelemen, and her husband, learning that the solicitor was his former rival, is convinced that Szabo is not at all likely to prove to be the "wolf" that will rob him of his one lamb. The play was beautifully staged and acted in a convincing manner. Fraulein Marberg, in the rôle of the wife, gave an excellent study, and in the dream scene exerted all the charms of her fascinating and graceful personality. Herr Tressler, in the part of Szabo, was also excellent. The piece was warmly applauded throughout.

At the Freie Volksbuhne Gabriel Schillings Flucht (Gabriel Schillings Flight) by Gerhardt Hauptmann was performed. It is a thoughtful and symbolic play resembling the same author's "Michael Kramer" and "Versunkene Glocke." The theme is the struggle of a man with his destiny against the powers besetting him from without and within, and his tragical end. Two philosophical views are represented: the pessimism of Schopenhauer held by the hero, which is contrasted by the geniality and optimism expressed by his wife, Lucie Heil. Two women influence the life of Schilling, his faithful, unselfish wife, and the hysterical Hanna Elias, who is also wildly in love with him. These two struggle for possession of Schilling—the wife for her rightful happiness, the other for passion alone. Both suffer for him according to their natures, but neither understands him. At the last Schilling seeks refuge in flight. The play is probably the most artistic and the most searching of all Hauptmann's work. The play was well acted, and won merited applause.

Despite the elision of the last act, and other alterations, "The Tide" has failed to attract at the Queen's Theatre, and will be withdrawn after the performance this evening.

Mr. John Hyman, of 29, Leicester-square, supplied the majority of the elegant costumes for the Countess of Galway's fancy dress ball, recently held at Retford.

The pantomime, "Old King Cole," is going strong at the Newcastle Tyne Theatre, and bids fair to be one of the most successful seen in Newcastle for some time.

Miss Margaret Lynhart has been very successful in "Jack and Jill" at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, in the part of the Queen of Happyland. She is a charming solo dancer, and is the understudy of the principal boy in the pantomime.

Mr. Leonard Shepherd is directing a company of "The Comedy of Errors" and "She Stoops to Conquer" for Mr. Ben Greet in the States this season.

SPORTING NOTES.

BY SANTOI.

Generally, the Spring Handicaps have been well supported. The open weather we have experienced so far has doubtless encouraged owners to enter their horses freely. The Lincolnshire Handicap, for instance, though it is deposed from its usual place as the first important race of the season, has actually secured seven more entries than last year. Its total of 51, however, is still far below the domination of 1911, in number at least. Three-year-olds at Lincoln are evidently completely out of fashion, for only one of that age—St. Meriadoc—figures in the race. Class is fairly well represented, but there is no difficulty in prophesying what will be top-weight, as last year's hero, Long Set, is there again. Mr. Sol Joel has also entered his Cambridgeshire failures, Maiden Erlegh and Polkerris. Polkerris, on account of her sex, would not be an attractive proposition in spring, but Maiden Erlegh will be difficult to handicap out of the race. He is a semi-classic horse, yet the handicappers are bound to put a respectable breach between him and Long Set.

Brilliant two-year-olds that lose their form to some extent the following season often pick up again in the third season, and on that account White Star, who is a full brother to Sunstar, is a likely sort of horse for Lincoln, especially as a mile is about his best distance. Mr. J. B. Joel has also Spanish Prince and Sunspot in the race. The first-named was third at Lincoln in 1911, and was still a great horse last season, but Sunspot was knocked over by the epidemic which played havoc with so many of the Wantage horses last summer, and did not recover his form in the autumn. The entry of Eton Boy is rather unexpected, as it is the intention of his owner to train him for the Ascot Gold Cup. This will probably turn out a mistake, as brilliant milers rarely develop stamina of a high order, and they invariably lose their dash in the process of attempting to develop it. The Whatcombe pair, Tuxedo and Mordred, are both likely animals for Lincoln. Tuxedo is a filly though, and mares have played an inconspicuous part in the history of the Lincolnshire up to now. Mordred cannot be overloaded with weight on his autumn form. Yet at his best he is a really good horse. He was unfit and unfancied when he ran in the Cambridgeshire, a race he could not have lost on his best form at the weight he was apportioned. Brandimintine, who has distinguished himself over hurdles this winter, is almost certain to accept and run, for his weight will be next to nothing, and already he has been placed at Lincoln. The Great Tom Plate winner, Cuthbert, will doubtless be widely tipped, as winners of that particular event usually are for the following season's Lincolnshire; but, curiously enough, they have failed to do any good up to now.

It is a pity there are no good three-year-olds to lend interest to the handicap, especially as the race this year will be run some days later than usual. The City and Suburban has fared better in this matter, and altogether there are half a dozen three-year-olds entered. There are no first class ones amongst them, however. Thistleton and Aldegonde representing the best class. Aldegonde, I believe, is a far better colt than his juvenile form would show. As he is trained at Epsom, possibly he will be specially laid out for the race. He belongs to a stable which gambles at times, and the City and Suburban affords great possibilities in that respect. Here, again, occurs Long Set's name, and the question of what will be top-weight is settled. Lomond is another distinguished entry, and if he can be got really fit by the end of April no quantity of weight would stop him among handicappers.

Kempton Park may congratulate itself on a Jubilee "boom." This popular handicap has closed with an entry of fifty-five, which is a score in front of last year. His Majesty's Pintadean heads the list, and in handicap class this colt might gain distinction, for he ran really well in classic company more than once last year. Lomond is a notable absentee here, for he figures in the City and Suburban, which is worth a thousand less than the Kempton race. Mr. Hulton, however, has the three-year-old Waiontha in the Jubilee, an extremely useful youngster last season. Other interesting entries are the Northern crack Etheric, who defeated Lomond at Brighton in August, and the St. Leger third, Hector. The last-named colt will probably turn out a really good four-year-old. A good part of his early youth was spent in the infirmary, and he was not fully developed when he ran at Doncaster.

Warlingham has been freely entered in all the long-distance races beginning with the first important event of the season, the Queen's Prize, on Easter Monday. His most serious mission, however, will be the Ascot Gold Cup, and, in view of the dearth of good stayers in training, Mr. Sievier's chance of lifting the great trophy is anything but forlorn, for one never knows what may happen to the cracks, Prince Palatine and Tracery. It is a healthy sign when owners enter their three-year-olds for this great test of stamina, and such as Rock Flint, Louviers, and Sanquhar may have to be reckoned with next June. Rock Flint is almost bound to stay, for he is by Rock Sand, and in his two-year-old career, he more than once gave evidence of stamina of a very high order—notably when he beat Craganour over six furlongs at Goodwood.

Jenkinstown, the 1910 Grand National winner, was destroyed last Saturday owing to a deceased bone. This means a very heavy loss to owner, Mr. J. Blundell, who last winter p 3,000 guineas for him. Unfortunately, Jenkinstown was never able to run after the sale. He broke loose on the railway line, it will be remembered, on the way from London to Gosnell's place at Bangor, and sustained some cuts. Later a bone became diseased, and the horse was not able to jump, though he could gallop.

That hooligan of the ring, the bookmaker's "runner," whose violence and generally aggressive behaviour has caused so much inconvenience to peaceful visitors in the rings is doomed. The racecourse executives are now considering the question of suppressing him altogether.

SELECTIONS.

At Lingfield to-day we are promised quite an interesting afternoon's sport for this little fixture. The Eden Vale Hurdle Handicap. I shall vote a good thing for FELLAH, who has improved a lot recently, and is highly fancied. MARITA can stay for a week, and in the Stayers' Hurdle she has nothing of note to beat. PICCANINNY II. ought to win the Open Steeplechase, CHATEAU VERT, who ran so well over fences at Plumpton the other day, the Holly Maiden Steeplechase, and LADY CROSSE the Blindley Heath Hurdle.

Birmingham on Monday is difficult to tip upon, as the fields invariably cut up poorly there. TIBET CHIEF has only to run to win the Stetchford Hurdle, and a like remark applies to KOLO in the Smethwick Steeplechase. SETANIUS holds a sporting chance in the Highfield Steeplechase, and BRONZEWING III., can win the Staffordshire Hurdle. The Packington Maiden Steeplechase is good for BALLYHIST, and GOTHAM should win the Maiden Hurdle. On Tuesday LORD RIVERS outclasses the opposition in the Stayers' Steeplechase, and FORKHILL represents a betting chance in the Handicap Steeplechase. BERNSTEIN, who has missed many engagements lately, will about win the Maiden Hurdle.

ON THE ROAD, JANUARY 13.

ALIAS JIMMY VALENTINE.—Accrington.
ALLAH'S ORCHARD.—O.H., St. Helens.
AN ARABIAN VENGEANCE.—P.O.W., Nuneaton.
ARE YOU A MASON?—Palace T., Gloucester.
AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER.—Hippo., Darlington.
AT THE MERCY OF THE MORMONS.—Hippo., Bilston.
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST (GRANVILLE).—Grand T., Stockton.
BELLA DONNA (LIMPUS).—O.H., Scarborough.
BENSON, F. R.—New T., Crewe.
BONNIE MARY.—T.R., Seaham Harbour.
BULMER, MR.—Olympia, Coalville.
BUNTY PULLS THE STRINGS (N.).—Perth.
CARL ROSA OPERA CO.—King's T., Greenock.
CASTELLANO'S OPERA CO.—Grand T., Nelson.
CHOCOLATE SOLDIER (No. 1).—O.H., Wakefield.
CINDERELLA (DOTTRIDGE).—Hippo., Huddersfield.
CLAUDIAN.—T.R., Preston.
COLLIER'S LASS, THE (S.).—T.R., Whitehaven.
COLOMBO GIRL, THE.—Pontardawe and Ystalyfera.
COUNT OF LUXEMBOURG.—County T., Hereford.
DANCING MISTRESS, THE.—King's T., Glasgow.
DICK WHITTINGTON (DOTTRIDGE).—Hippo., Portsmouth.
D'OYLY CARTE OPERA.—H.M.T., Aberdeen.
DRAPER, MR. MARCUS.—Star T., Swansea.
EAST LYNNE (PITT-HARDACRE).—Artillery T., Woolwich.
EYES OF THE WORLD.—Queen's T., Leeds.
FANNY'S FIRST PLAY (RIGNOLD AND MACDONA).—Lyceum T., Ipswich.
FATAL WEDDING.—T.R., Torquay.
FOR WIFE AND KINGDOM.—T.R., Barnsley.
GARROD, MR. W. V.—T.R., Glossop.
GIRL IN THE PICTURE.—Gaiety T., Ayr.
GIRL IN THE TRAIN.—O.H., Perth.
GLOSSOP-HARRIS REPT.—Grand T., Doncaster.
GREAT WHITE CHIEF.—Osborne T., Manchester.
HILL-MITCHELSON AND CO.—Grand T., Lancaster.
HINDLE WAKES.—T.R., Blackburn
HOPE, THE (DANCE).—T.R., York.
I DEFY THE WORLD.—Grand T., Glasgow.
INDIAN SCOUT, THE.—T.R., Aldershot.
KING OF THE GIPSIES.—Gaiety T., Houghton-le-Spring.
KISMET (DANCE, S.).—O.H., Cheltenham.
KIT CARSON.—T.R., Glossop.
LA COMEDIE ANGLAISE.—Public Halls, Athlone, Tullamore, and Naas.
LIFEGUARDSMAN, THE (S.).—T.R., Rotherham.
LODGE-PERCY REPT.—Keswick and Kendal.
LOMATH, MR. STUART.—Gaiety T., Burnley.
MARSH, ALEXANDER, SHAKESPEAREAN.—T.R., Wednesbury.
'MID PLEASURES AND PALACES.—Hippodrome, Wigan.
MILESTONES (FIT-UP).—Colchester and Aylesbury.
MIRACLE, THE.—T.R., Darlington.
MISS HOOK OF HOLLAND.—Hippo., Stockton.
MONK AND THE WOMAN.—Pier, Eastbourne.
MONTE CRISTO.—Empire T., Holloway.
MOODY-MANNERS OPERA CO.—Kelly's T., Liverpool.
MORMON AND HIS WIVES.—Met. T., Glasgow.
NO MOTHER TO GUIDE HER.—Portsmouth.
OATH OF VENGEANCE.—P.O.W., Nuneaton.
OLD FOLKS AT HOME, THE.—Queen's T., Leeds.
OLD HOME, THE.—T.R., Oldham.
O'MARA OPERA CO.—Empire T., Tonypandy.
PINK LADY, THE.—Grand T., Oldham.
PRAIRIE OUTLAW, THE.—Alex. T., Widnes.
PRIDE OF BYZANTIA, THE.—Court T., Bacup.
PRIDE OF THE PRAIRIE.—King's T., Longsight.
QUEEN MOTHER, THE.—T.R., Dewsbury.
QUEEN OF THE REDSKINS (N.).—H.M.T., Carlisle.
QUEEN OF THE REDSKINS (S.).—O.H., Londonderry.
OUTLAW OPERA.—T.R., Dublin.
READY MONEY.—D.P.T., Eastbourne.
RED RIDING HOOD (DE LACY AND TYMES).—Empire T., Heanor.
RED RIDING HOOD (SEEBOLD).—T.R., Margate.
ROBINSON CRUSOE (DOTTRIDGE).—Palace T., Manchester.
ROYAL DIVORCE, A.—Palace T., Porth.
SILVER KING.—Alexandra T., Hull.
SLAVE GIRL, THE.—T.R., Crook.
SLEDGE-HAMMER, THE.—Palace T., Scunthorpe.
STILL ALARM, THE.—Queen's T., Workington.
SUNSHINE GIRL (DANCE).—T.R., Bath.
SWEET NELL OF OLD DRURY.—O.H., Southport.
UNCLE TOM'S CABIN.—T.R., Bury St. Edmunds.
WALTZ DREAM (N.).—O.H., Northampton.
WALTZ DREAM (S.).—T.R., Stockport.
WHAT HAPPENED TO JONES.—Grand T., Plymouth.
WHAT WOMEN WILL DO FOR LOVE.—Marina T., Lowestoft.
WHEN LONDON SLEEPS.—Aquarium, Yarmouth.
WHIP, THE (DANCE) (N.).—East Ham.
WHIP, THE (DANCE) (S.).—Hastings.
WHITE AS A LILY.—T.R., Stratford, E.
WHITTY-VAN PRAAGH.—Queen's T., Leeds.
WIFE FOR A DAY.—T.R., Glossop.
WITH EDGED TOOLS.—T.R., Aston.
WOMAN PAYS, THE.—T.R., Wolverhampton.
YOUNG BUFFALO.—Hippodrome, Huddersfield.

SUNDAY'S TRAIN CALLS.

By the courtesy of the various railway companies we are enabled to give the following particulars regarding the movements of theatrical and music hall touring companies travelling by rail to-morrow:

NORTH-EASTERN RAILWAY.

The following companies will travel over the above railway to-morrow (Sunday):—Lalla Selbini Co., Newcastle to Barrow-in-Furness; "Fol de Rols" Co., Newcastle to Sunderland; "The Quaker Girl," Newcastle to Wolverhampton; "The Morman and His Wives," Newcastle to Glasgow; "His Child Wife," Newcastle to Hull; "Cinderella," Newcastle to West Hartlepool; "Allah's Orchard," Fencehouses to St. Helens; "Winter's Tale," Seaham to Brighton; "Giro Sans" Co., Seaham to Edmonton; "Aladdin," Shield Row to Darlington; Kino's Juveniles, Shield Row to Bradford; "Sinbad," North Shields to Ashington; "Dick Whittington," Sunderland to Blyth; Betty Barclay Co., Sunderland to Preston; Gregory Troupe, Sunderland to King's Cross; "Aladdin," Ashington to Birtley; "Robinson Crusoe," South Shields to West Hartlepool; "Babes in the Wood," South Shields to Newcastle; "Cowboy's Redemption," South Shields to Gateshead; "Babes in the Wood," Bishop Auckland to Batley; "Mermaids," Jarrow to Blaydon; "Babes in the Wood," Crook to Annfield Plain; Fuzi Troupe, Corsett to Morecambe; "Married to the Wrong Man," Glasgow to London; The Astis, Newcastle to King's Cross; "Pet of the Ranch" Co., Dundee to Goole; "Les Petits Anglais" Co., Annfield Plain to Pelton; "Dick Whittington," Brandon Colliery to Spennymoor; Mahomet Arabs, Maryport to Middlesbrough; "Ruin of a Countess," Durham to Pontypridd; "Miss Hook of Holland," Darlington to Stockton; "Jack and the Beanstalk," Darlington to Gateshead; Turner's Opera Co., Ilkley to South Shields; "Lad's Love" Co., Leeds to Bishop Auckland; "Babes in the Wood," Warrington to York; "Beauty and the Beast," Birkenhead to Stockton; "Autumn Manœuvres," Coventry to Newcastle; "Ben-Hur," Blackburn to York; "Cinderella," Barnsley to Castleford; "Cinderella" Bradford to Sunderland; "Collier's Lass," Halifax to Sunderland; "All Square" Co. York to Bradford; Robertinos Co., Middlesbrough to Rotherham; "The Gambler," Middlesbrough to Shield Row; Selbinis Middlesbrough to Burnley; "Slave Girl," Thornaby to Crook; "Merry Widow" Co., York to Halifax; "Queen Mother" Co., Hull to Dewsbury; Carbin's Animals, Scarborough to North Shields; "King of the Gipsies," Nuneaton to Fencehouses; "Dick Whittington," Nelson to Jarrow; "Babes in the Wood," Bolton to Harrogate.

LONDON AND NORTH WESTERN.

The following companies will travel by L. and N.-W. route to-morrow (Sunday):—Miss Julia Neilson and Mr. Fred Terry's Co., London to Southport; Messrs. Buchanan and Stevens' "Sinbad," London to Falkirk; "Everybody," London to St. Helens; Mr. Oswald Williams, London to Blackburn; "Red Riding Hood," Southampton to Bolton; "Sleeping Beauty," Newport to Wigan; "Frontier Queen," Neath to Chorley; "Alias Jimmy Valentine," Whitehaven to Accrington; "Brewster's Millions," Barrow to Leigh and Bedford; "Arcadians," Darwen to Barrow; "Still Alarm," Lancaster to Workington; "Cinderella," Leigh and Bedford to Keighley; "Babes in the Wood," Bolton to Harrogate; "Beauty and the Beast," Birkenhead to Stockton; "Red Riding Hood," Chester to Nelson; "Babes in the Wood," Warrington to York; "Our Miss Gibbs," Sheffield to Dudley; Mr. F. R. Benson's Co., Burnley to Crewe; "Robinson Crusoe," Warrington to Birmingham; Mr. Alex. Marsh's Co., Macclesfield to Wednesbury; "At the Mercy of the Mormons," Liverpool to Bilston; "Katawampus," Birkenhead to London; "When London Sleeps," Longton to Windsor; "Cinderella," Denton to Tidworth; "The Hope," Bury to Chester; "Cinderella," Walsall to Birkenhead; "Aladdin," London to Watford; "Prairie Outlaw," Wednesbury to Widnes; "Quaker Girl," Dudley to Macclesfield; "Autumn Manœuvres," Coventry to Newcastle; "Dick Whittington," Birmingham to Stoke; "Old Home," Bilston to Oldham; "Chocolate Soldier," Crewe to Wakefield; "Aladdin," Greenock to Huddersfield; Rag-time Octette, Edinburgh to Birmingham; Mr. J. F. Elliston's "Puss in Boots," Leeds to Liverpool; "Aladdin," Stockport to Alexandra Dock, for Bootle; "Quaker Girl," Newcastle to Wolverhampton; "Waltz Dream," Wakefield to Stockport; "Glad Eye," Northampton to Rochdale; "Ann," London to Birkenhead, for New Brighton; "Queen of the Redskins," Birmingham to Londonderry; "Married to the Wrong Man," Glasgow to London; "Aladdin," Lowestoft to Smethwick; "House That Jack Built," Ipswich to Accrington; "Village Sports," West Hartlepool to Coventry; "East Lynne," Bangor to Woolwich; "White as a Lily," Smethwick to London; "Find the Woman," Wolverhampton to Norwich; "Cinderella," Watford to London; "'Mid Pleasures and Palaces," St. Helens to Warrington; "Wakes Week," St. Helens to Liverpool; Mr. John Lawson's Co. Barrow to Glasgow; "Prisoner of Zenda," Dewsbury to Oldham; Darnell's Manchester to Birmingham; "Fatal Crown," Stoke to Lancaster; "Aladdin" Leigh and Bedford to Chorley; "Chocolate Soldier," Kettering to Stafford.

LONDON, BRIGHTON AND SOUTH COAST RAILWAY.

Theatrical Movements, Sunday Next.—"Sunshine Girl" Co., Eastbourne to Bath; "Quaker Girl" Co., East Croydon to Reading; "Red Riding Hood" Co., Eastbourne to Margate; "Aladdin" Co., New Cross to East Croydon; "H.M.S. Victory" Co., Portsmouth Town to Norwich; "Queen for a Wife" Co., Margate to Worthing; "White Girl Slave" Co., Worthing to Bordon; Marris's "Dick Whittington" Co., Brighton to Richmond (Surrey); "Monk and the Woman" Co., Swindon to Eastbourne.

LONDON AND SOUTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

The undermentioned theatrical parties will be travelling over the above company's system to-morrow (Sunday):—Mr. Martin Harvey's Co., Cardiff to Bournemouth; Mr. George Edwardes's "Gipsy Love," Southampton to Chatham (arriving Waterloo 11.19 a.m.); Messrs. Moreton and Heath's "Babes in the Wood," Bournemouth to Southampton; Mr. Edward Marris's "Aladdin," Boscombe to Portsmouth; Mr. Bannister Howard's "Robinson Crusoe," Cheltenham to Southampton; "Cinderella," Windsor to Luton; "Red Riding Hood," Southampton to Bolton; "Dick Whittington," Portsmouth to Boscombe; Jewel's "Change," Southampton to Bury; "White Slave," Worthing to Borden; "No Mother to Guide Her," Rushden to Portsmouth; "Indian Scout," Waterloo to Aldershot (by the 11.15 a.m. train); "When London Sleeps," Longton to Windsor; "Cinderella," Denton to Tidworth; Solbrig's Co., Kingston to Reading; Eight Germanias, Southampton to Waterloo. On Monday next Mr. George Spink's "Aladdin" Co. will travel from Ryde to Oxford.

THEATRICAL LAW.

MISS LILLAH McCARTHY THREATENED.

Percy William Collins was accused at Horsham, on Monday, of having written threatening letters to Miss Lillah McCarthy. It was stated by counsel that the prisoner lived at Horsham. On Dec. 3 he wrote a letter to Miss Lillah McCarthy as follows:—

"Dear Madam,—I beg to offer you a lyric entitled 'Eileen,' signed Percy W. O'Neill. The music is by a well-known composer, who at present wishes to be anonymous. The song is to be published shortly, and will be a great success. Would you like to have the song dedicated to you? And oblige, your obedient servant,

"PERCY W. COLLINS."

A reply was sent by Miss McCarthy's manager, accepting the offer. On Dec. 12 Miss McCarthy received the following letter:—

"The Gables, Horsham.

"Unless you send me the sum of £1,000 per return I shall shoot you with a Browning pistol, also . . . . Percy Collins. Epsilon. Wine is good.—Yours truly,

"MAURICE DEWING."

The letter was placed in the hands of the police. On Dec. 13 another letter was received by Miss McCarthy bearing the same address and the same device on the envelope. It ran:—

"Madam,—Unless you send me the £1,000 previously demanded immediately I shall shoot you, and also . . . Percy Collins.

"MAURICE DEWING."

Miss Lillah McCarthy said she received the first letter and authorised a reply giving her permission for the dedication to her of a song. The second letter, threatening her, she gave to her manager.

Mr. Alfred Piggott, business-manager of the Savoy Theatre, proved the receipt of the threatening letters.

Dr. Kidd, medical superintendent of the West Sussex Mental Hospital, said the prisoner was resident there from October, 1907, until March, 1908.

The Bench committed the accused to the February sessions at the Old Bailey, and made an order on the county funds for the costs of the prosecution.

"The Witness for the Defence" tour, under the direction of Mr. Frank Weathersby, will start at the Gaiety Theatre, Hastings, on Jan. 24, and will visit Birmingham, Canterbury, Margate, Accrington, Bangor, Yarmouth, Brighton, Devonshire Park, Eastbourne, &c. The entire production will be carried.

Mr. Jefferson, just back from Glasgow, 'phones us that Mr. Fredk. Melville's play, "Married to the Wrong Man," on its second visit to the Metropole, Glasgow, has created a new record for the New Year holiday week period, convincing proof surely that good drama played in a popular theatre, still "holds its own."

Mr. Martin Harvey presented on Thursday Professor Reinhardt's production of "Œdipus Rex," at the Park Hall, Cardiff, before a large audience. This is the first time that the great spectacle has been given in England in a building other than a theatre. It was found impossible to produce the play in the new theatre, but, with the cordial co-operation of Mr. Robert Redford, the Park Hall, which is one of the finest buildings of the country, was most effectively adapted to the purpose by the erection of wonderful Doric facade and the installation of special lighting.

Great interest has been aroused in South Wales by the event, and an honorary committee, including the Earl of Plymouth, Lord Ninian Crichton Stuart, M.P., the Lord Mayor of Cardiff, the Principal of the University, and other leading representatives of public life, was formed to give the occasion the fullest support.

MASONS AT WORK.

THE PLAYGOERS' LODGE.

The "Playgoers" are nothing if not thorough, and thoroughly in earnest, in everything they undertake, therefore it is not surprising there was a large gathering of the members of the Lodge present at the Hotel Cecil, Strand, on Tuesday last to witness the installation of Mr. W. F. H. Warner as Master for the ensuing year.

A goodly number of Grand Officers of England were in attendance, including Messrs. J. L. Goldstein, P.A.G.D.C., Arthur Carpenter, P.A.G.D.C., Charles Cruikshanks, P.A.G.Std.B., J. A. Carpenter, P.G.Swd.B., T. J. Ralling, P.A.G.D.C., David Hills, P.A.G.D.S., and Louis Harfeld, P.A.G.D.C. Mr. R. Percy F. W. Simpson, M.A., P.Dep.G.D.C., Secretary of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, was, owing to pressing engagements, unable to be present at the installation, but was able to attend the banquet later and support the chairman, who had notified his intention of going up as a steward at the next festival of the R.M.I.G.

The Master, Mr. C. J. Pinnell, opened the proceedings, and subsequently Mr. W. F. H. Warner was presented to receive at his hands the benefits of installation as his successor.

Mr. Warner having previously served the office of Master, it was unnecessary to go through the ceremony of installation in its entirety, and a shortened form was adopted with due observance of all ancient rites, and the established landmarks of the order, and Mr. Warner was duly installed as Master of the Playgoers' Lodge No. 2705 in the presence of a Board of I.M.'s of considerable magnitude. The new Master appointed his officers as follows (investing those who were present):—C. J. Pinnell, I.P.M.; R. H. Jones, S.W.; F. J. Leggett, J.W.; G. J. Farrington, secretary; S. Rains, S.D.; G. W. Collins, J.D.; H. Layton Hall, D.C.; A. M. Latham, A.D.C.; Louis Harfeld, almoner; R. F. Pearce, organist; Colin Thomson, I.G.; and A. F. Spencer, D. C. Isaacs, H. P. Dulley, and A. Davis stewards. Mr. R. H. Shaw having been elected as treasurer by the members of the Lodge was invested with the collar of his office. Mr. T. Williams re-elected as Tyler by the brethren was duly invested.

The addresses after the installation were impressively rendered by the installing Master, Mr. C. J. Pinnell, Mr. R. H. Shaw (the treasurer), and Mr. Louis Harfeld (the almoner).

The auditors' report was read, received, adopted, and ordered to be placed upon the minutes.

A number of apologies for non-attendance were received.

Arrangements for the holding of a "ladies' night" were foreshadowed.

After the closing of the proceedings the brethren and their guests adjourned to the Banqueting Hall, where an elegant repast worthy of the best traditions of the Playgoers' Lodge, was served.

The post-prandial proceedings were of a highly diversified order. The customary loyal and patriotic toasts having been duly honoured, the chairman gave "The Grand Master," which was enthusiastically received; this was followed by "The Grand Officers Present and Past," which was received with acclamation and was responded to by Messrs. T. J. Ralling, P.A.G.D.C., and Charles Cruikshanks, P.A.G.Std.B., in telling terms. The toast of "The W.M.," eloquently proposed by Mr. C. J. Pinnell, was received with enthusiasm and duly honoured, and was acknowledged gracefully by the Master. "The Visitors," an important factor in the success of meetings of the Playgoers' Lodge, were toasted on the suggestion of Mr. Will Sparks, P.M., L.R., the original secretary of the Lodge, when started some fifteen years ago, and some time the treasurer of the confraternity, and two of the distinguished guests, Messrs. J. Coghlan, District Grand Warden of the Eastern Archipelago, and David Urquhart, the W.M. Elect of the Savage Club Lodge, acknowledged the compliment.

"The Masonic Institutions" were proposed by Mr. Louis Harfeld in a telling speech, and the toast being coupled with the name of Mr. Percy Simpson, the secretary of the Girls' School, received hearty recognition. Mr. Percy Simpson was at his best in his acknowledgment of the toast, and referred to the needs of all the masonic charities, and pleaded eloquently for his own institution, the Girls' School, trusting the brethren would do all in their power to assist their master in his stewardship at the forthcoming festival.

The toast, "The Installing Master and Immediate Past," was heartily received, and Mr. Pinnell, who was presented with a valuable Past-Master's jewel, to commemorate his year of office returned his grateful thanks.

"The Officers of the Lodge" received an ovation, and the toast was responded to in fitting terms by Messrs. R. H. Jones and G. J. Farrington, the Senior Warden and secretary respectively.

It was a matter of regret when the time arrived for the giving of "The Tyler's" toast, and the ending of the proceedings.

During the evening an excellent programme of song, story, &c., was submitted by Miss Ruby Wilson (with the latest), Madame Alice Scrivener, Messrs. Nicholls (a banjoist of ability), Harry Dearth, Philip Ritte, Randell Jackson, and Selwyn Driver. Other artistes' names were included in the programme, but unavoidable circumstances prevented their appearance. Mr. W. Mansell Steven presided at the pianoforte.

Sir George Alexander's cast of "Turandot, Princess of China," at the St. James's, on Saturday, will include Mr. J. H. Barnes, Mr. Edward Sass, Mr. E. Vivian Reynolds, Mr. Fred. Lewis, Mr. Norman Forbes, Mr. Godfrey Tearle, Mr. Alfred Harris, Mr. Austin Fehrman, Mr. James Berry, Mr. W. E. Hall, Miss Evelyn D'Alroy, Miss Hilda Moore, Miss Maire O'Neill, Miss Margaret Tarde, Miss Mary Clare, Miss Margaret Chute, Miss Susie Claughton, and Miss Stella Rho. The piece is described as a Chinoiserie, in Prose and Verse, in three acts, by Karl Vollmoeller; English version by Jethro Bithell; music by Ferruccio Busoni; scenery and costumes from designs by Ernst Stern. The action takes place outside the gates of Pekin and inside the Emperor's palace.

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Pryde, Miss Peggy
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Redway, Mr. F.
Reed, Mr. G. R.
Revy, Miss Aurelie
Reynolds, Mr. Harry
Rice and Shepherd
Rignold, Mr. H. H.
Riorin, Mr. Karl
Robinson, Mr. Phil
Robinson, Mr. R.
Rose, Mr. Leonard
Roseby, Miss Alice
Rositer, Miss Madeline
Rosmer, Mr. Milton
Russell, Mr. Leonard
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Sampson, Mr. C. A.
Saunders, Mr. E. G.
Schuberth, Miss F.
Scott, Mr. Wally
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Seymour, Mr. O. G.
Shaw, Mr. W. B.
Smith, Mr. F. E. A.
Sorley, Mr. Edward
Spaulton, Mr.
Spens, Mr. Andrew
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DRAMATIC AND MUSICAL LAW.

"Dramatic and Musical Law," by Mr. A. A. Strong, LL.B., has reached a third edition, and gives in simple language such parts of the law as relate to subjects with which the profession is concerned.—"The Financier."

Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable work "Dramatic and Musical Law," published at "The Era" Offices, Tavistock-street, has reached its third edition. The author has made every effort to bring the book right up to date.—"Referee," May 15, 1910.

The work succeeds in making plain the thorny legal path that every manager and artist must tread, and by a timely consultation of its pages they may avoid much misapprehension and trouble.—"Star."

Price 5s., post free 5s. 4d. Published at "The Era" Offices, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

The Playgoers' Club have arranged a fancy dress ball at the Connaught Rooms on Wednesday, when prizes will be given for the two best costumes, of which Miss Evelyn D'Alroy will be the judge.

Mr. Somerset Maugham is now in Canada, where he is collecting local colour for his new play, the third act of which is laid in the Dominion, while that of the first is in London. As the second is in New York, the piece has plenty of change.

On Thursday Mr. Heinemann published Miss Elizabeth Robins' new story, "Where are You Going To?" The novel, which is based on actual fact, lays bare one of the most unspeakable horrors of our present civilisation, a subject on which there has been recent legislation.

Miss Blanche and Miss Dorothy Leveson Lane, daughters of Mr. Charles Leveson Lane, have been engaged by Mr. Matheson Lang to make their first appearance on any stage in his forthcoming production of "Westward Ho!" at the Palladium.

A new musical play with a plot, viz., "Lucky Miss Chance," written and composed by W. T. Ivory and Kenneth Morrison, opens at Pontefract next Monday with a first-class company, including Mr. Gus Danby, Miss Geraldin Verner, and Mr. Charles Shepley.

The Birmingham Repertory Theatre will be opened on Feb. 15 with a performance of "Twelfth Night" and Mr. John Galsworthy's "Pigeon." New plays to be introduced in the season are W. B. Yeats's "Countess Kathleen" and Lady Gregory's "White Cockade."

Mr. A. Russell-Davis, one of the enterprising directors of the South Coast Repertory Company, is the winner of the Dyke Golf Club's monthly medal with a net score of 73. He did the last nine holes in 39, bogey being 37.

Mr. Councillor Chas. Price, who for the last three years has so ably and successfully managed the Royal Victoria Theatre and Pavilion, Ramsgate, has severed his connection with the management.

The premises of the newly-formed Shanghai Playgoers' Society were opened by Sir Havilland de Sausmarez on Dec. 16. At Sir Havilland's request, Mr. Allan Wilkie addressed the meeting.

Telephone Call Office.—For the convenience of advertisers and members of the amusement professions, a public telephone call office is installed at "The Era" offices, 5, Tavistock-street, W.C.

OUR AMATEURS.

The Dulwich Stagers Operatic Society possesses a strong and well-trained chorus, which did full justice to the tuneful numbers of "The Pirates of Penzance" at the Surrey Masonic Hall on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings last. The work of the principals also was very sound. Mr. Frank Wyatt played with spirit as the Pirate King and Mr. H. A Dymond gave an easy and natural reading of the part of Major-General Stanley. Miss Margaret Russell's small but sweet voice rendered good service in her impersonation of Edith, and Miss Dorothea Douglas, as Mabel, scored in the ornate aria, "Poor wandering one." Miss Muriel Clegg, as the Piratical Maid-of-all-Work, Ruth, sang better than she acted, and other parts were very satisfactorily filled by Mr. Leo W. Savage as Frederick, Mr. Harry Mason, a stalwart Sergeant of Police, and Mr. William Thurnell as the Pirate King's Lieutenant Samuel. The Misses Mabel and Lily Lipscombe also gave good support as Kate and Isabel, the General's daughters. The opera, which was produced under the capable direction of Mr. William Blake, was preceded by the pretty comedietta "Hook and Eye," by Ellie Norwood, in which Mr. W. Thurnell was very good as the old Sergeant of the 23rd Foot, Joshua Gelding. Mr. Warwick Hefford and Mr. Henry T. Martin were both a little stiff and mechanical as the artist, Edward Fairleigh, and the Squire, Harry Selbourne, but Miss May Ellis gave a very good account of herself as the Squire's sister, Sylvia Selbourne. Both pieces were well received by appreciative audiences.

A performance which can hold the bulk of its audience for nearly four hours must have some quality in it, and though the "waits" were unduly long and the acting on several occasions inclined to drag, the performance of Mr. C. Haddon Chambers' four-act play, "Passers-by," by the Proteus D.C., at the Cripplegate Theatre, on Jan. 9, was a very good one. It may be noted that this is the first production of the play by amateurs. "Passers-by" contains two rich character sketches in the parts of the cheery, philosophic, yet dignified, old cabby, "Nighty," and the degenerate loafer, Samuel Burns, which were played by Mr. W. J. Evennett and Mr. Malcolm R. Fisher respectively, in a manner that it would be hard to beat, which gained them much genuine applause. The "make-up" in both cases was excellent. Mr. Aysh Hawke failed to entirely embody the character of the man of the world, Peter Waverton, and was rather too youthful in appearance. Mr. Percy Harford played with consistent restraint as the butler, Pine, and Master Sidney Warshaw, the little son of the producer, Mme. H. E. Warshaw, was a pretty and intelligent Little Peter. Miss Cecilia Gould used a musical voice with good effect in the part of the frank and high-spirited Beatrice Dainton, and Miss Golda Luschinski was dignified as Lady Hurley. In Margaret Summers Miss Lilian Ramford had a part well suited to her finished emotional style, but she should guard against growing mannerisms of pronunciation. "Passers-by" was preceded by a new play in one act, by Lilian Bamberg, entitled

"THE SWING OF THE PENDULUM."

John Harland ..... Mr. E. F. Crome
Esther Harland ..... Miss Lilian Ramford
Frank Lee ..... Mr. Aysh Hawke
Thomas Perry ..... Mr. Percy Harford
Annette ..... Miss Cecilia Gould

This takes place in the private sitting-room of a London hotel, to which the rich John Harland, who has made his money rapidly in America, brings his daughter, Esther, on a visit to their native country. They are accompanied by Frank Lee, the son of the man who gave Harland his first chance, now the latter's partner and a would-be son-in-law. But Esther's mind is filled with an ideal Tom Perry, whom she left in England ten years before, when both were poor and obscure. Though she will have nothing to say to Lee, she has unconsciously attributed to the ideal Tom the best characteristics of Frank, and not until she is confronted, in the person of a working gasfitter, employed in the hotel, with the real Tom, married and forgetful of her, who has "gone two steps forward and slipped back three," in his passage through life, does she realise where true happiness lies, and makes her peace with Frank. The little piece, which contains some smart lines, went very well, though the accents, American and French, demanded of the various parts were apt to be intermittent and varied. Chief acting honours go to Mr. Percy Harford for his impersonation of the gasfitter, Tom Perry. Mr. Aysh Hawke played with a little uncertainty and stiffness as Frank Lee, and Mr. E. F. Crome capably took the part of John Harland. Miss Lilian Ramford was a graceful and "intense" Esther Harland, and Miss Cecilia Gould played the part of her pert French maid, Annette.

THE "COMEDIES" CONCERT PARTY.

The above company of three ladies and three gentlemen are giving an exceptionally bright and refined entertainment in the Concert Hall of the Crystal Palace. Under the management of Mr. Roxburghe Reely, there is never a pause in the merriment, and song, dance, violin solos, and concerted pieces fill up a couple of hours in entertaining fashion.

Miss Doris Dainton presided at the piano, but can also sing in a very arch manner to her own accompaniment, and her solos on the violin were excellent in technique and finish. Miss Vivian Franklin possesses a pretty voice, and can dance and act smartly, and Miss May O'Connell sang very sweetly. Mr. Gordon Marsh is a clever and original humorist, some of his monologues being very amusing. Mr. Roxburghe Reely sang and danced with much verve, and his humour was always acceptable. Mr. Maitland Young has a fine baritone voice, and his excellent enunciation and manner were much appreciated. The dresses of the ladies were charming, and the men looked very smart in evening suits, trimmed and lined with a tasteful shade of pink.

Some sensational revelations are expected when the action for libel which a popular German singer is bringing against a Berlin editor comes on for hearing. The suit arises from the memoirs written by a former valet of the late King Leopold of Belgium, in which details of the last great fête held by the Baroness Vaughan for the delectation of Leopold are given, which are not at all complimentary to those who participated.

Messrs. Vedrenne and Eadie are sending out three fully-equipped companies (Red, White, Blue) of "Milestones" at the end of the present month, and the tours extend until after Whitsun. So great has been the demand from provincial managers that three companies will again start out in August, and there is not a single vacant date this year for any of the three. The play will reach its 365th performance at the Royalty on Jan. 18.

On New Year's Day, Mr. Rodger, manager of the King's Theatre, Kilmarnock, entertained about 480 poor children to breakfast. The theatre staff greatly helped to make it a success, and at night, after the performance of "The Girl in the Picture," a supper was held on the stage for the staff and friends. About thirty couples were present. Dancing followed, and a pleasant time ensued. Mr. Rodger's generosity was greatly appreciated. It is actions like these that endear a manager to his staff, and cause everyone to work together with a good will.

"THE ERA" NEWSPAPER.

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All communications intended for publication should be sent to "THE EDITOR," and be accompanied by the Writer's Name and Address, not necessarily for insertion, but as a guarantee of good faith.

The Editor will not undertake to be responsible for any rejected MSS., nor to return any Contribution unaccompanied by a stamped and directed envelope.

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Business Communications should be addressed to THE MANAGER,
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Telegrams, "The Era, London." Telephones, 4747 and 1433 Central.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

[We do not answer inquiries by post. In all letters the names and addresses of inquirers must be given as a guarantee of good faith. Initials only or pseudonyms will be used in the answers if so desired.]

L. PARKER.—*She was born on Feb. 12, 1870. We do not answer correspondents by post.*

L. L.—*Your question would best be answered by "Stubbs's Gazette"; or write to the Theatrical Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street.*

P. J. HAMON.—*Try Mr. Louis Napoleon Parker, care of His Majesty's Theatre, W. He should be in a position to give you the information desired.*

EUSTACE OWEN.—*We can assure you that the ladies of the profession do not confide their exact ages to the editorial staff of "The Era," and the artiste to whom you refer has not sent on the date of her birthday.*

EDWARD N. (Pontefract).—*There are at least five versions of Robert Louis Stevenson's story, mostly produced in 1888, the one by H. A. Saintsbury in 1896. There are American versions, too, but we know of none that are free, and you will produce any version at your own risk.*

J. M. (Dundee).—*We have no record of the particular performance to which you refer, but you might write to the manager, Mr. C. Foster-Marner, Palladium, Oxford-circus, London, W., or to Mr. Fred Emney, who is at the Borough Theatre, Stratford, E., in pantomime, and might have been playing in the sketch.*

P. STANDISH.—*"Patrie" has been adapted several times. On Jan. 3, 1878, the late Henry Labouchere did a version called "Fatherland" at the old Queen's Theatre, Long Acre, and Mrs. Lane another entitled "Dolores" on April 6, 1874, at the Britannia, Hoxton. An English adaptation by Mr. Arthur Shirley was done in America about 1890, and we believe the late Sir Augustus Harris tried one at the Tyne, Newcastle, with the idea of bringing it to Drury Lane. No version has met with equal success in English as in the original language, presumably because the struggle for freedom by the Dutch against Spanish invasion is but little understood or sympathised with in this country.*

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, & DEATHS.

The charge for inserting in "The Era" an announcement of a Birth, a Marriage, or a Death, or an "In Memoriam" notice, not exceeding twenty-four words, is One Shilling and Sixpence.

As a guarantee of good faith, the name and address of the sender must accompany each notice.

MARRIAGES.

ELWYN-LESLIE—BARLOW.—On Jan. 9, 1913, by special licence, Mr. S. Elwyn-Leslie (Mr. Sidney George Goodchild) to Miss Mabelle Frances Barlow.

DEATHS.

DANBY.—Jan. 2, at their residence, 2, Millman-street, Phyllis Maud Danby, age 7 years and 6 months, the beloved daughter of Harry and Helen Danby.

HOBSON.—Jan. 6, at 1, Brunswick-place, N.W., Maud Hobson, retired Gaiety actress.

REEVES.—Jan. 9, at his residence, 15, Dolben-street, Blackfriars-road, G. W. Reeves, comedian, aged 61.

IN MEMORIAM.

HARRISON.—In remembrance of Fred L. Harrison (of Fred and Lillie Harrison, variety artistes), who died on Jan. 9, 1904. "Do not forget me."

HOWARD.—At the Walthamstow Hospital, Jan. 3, 1913, Frederic Stephen, the beloved son of the late Henry and Mrs. Howard, aged 38, after a long illness. R.I.P.

"Oh, for the touch of a vanished hand,
And the sound of a voice that is still."

JORDISON.—In loving memory of Nellie Jordison, who passed away Jan. 7, 1900. Ever remembered by her husband, H. A. Jordison, and daughter Elsie.

LE CLERQ.—In loving memory of our dear father, George Le Clerq, who fell asleep Jan. 16, 1910. Fondly remembered by his children, Georgie, Gus, Artie, and Cissie. To live in the hearts of those we leave behind is not to die.

LE CLERQ.—In devoted remembrance of my beloved husband, George Le Clerq, who fell asleep Jan. 16, 1910. Always in the thoughts of his sorrowing and lonely wife, Georgie. Peace, perfect peace.

SHEPHERD.—In loving memory of Sidney Alfred, son of Walter and Henrietta Shepherd, of Rouen, France, who died at Stafford whilst on tour, Jan. 8, 1905.

FELIX TONEY.—In loving memory of my dear father, who passed away Jan. 10, 1911. Never forgotten by his daughter Gladys.

FELIX TONEY.—In loving memory of our dear brother, who died Jan. 10, 1911, at Birkenhead. Never forgotten by his loving brother and sisters.

BIRTHDAYS OF THE WEEK.

We wish many happy returns of the day to the following ladies and gentlemen:—

Effie D. Crawford—Saturday, Jan. 11.
Lady Bancroft—Sunday, Jan. 12.
E. M. Robson—Sunday, Jan. 12.
May Lilian Levey—Monday, Jan. 13
Haidée Wright—Monday, Jan. 13.
Edward Compton—Tuesday, Jan. 14.
Robert Lorraine—Tuesday, Jan. 14.
Dolly Harmer—Tuesday, Jan. 14.
Sam Redfern—Tuesday, Jan. 14
Evie Greene—Tuesday, Jan. 14.
Rutland Barrington—Wednesday, Jan. 15.
Minnie Cunningham—Wednesday, Jan. 15
Jean de Reszke—Wednesday, Jan. 15.
Alexandra Carlisle—Wednesday, Jan. 15.
J. Forbes-Ribertson—Thursday, Jan. 16.
Marie Dagmar—Thursday, Jan. 16.
Betty Hicks—Thursday, Jan. 16.
Janet Achurch—Friday, Jan. 17.
Richard Warner—Friday, Jan. 17.
Frank Travis—Friday, Jan. 17.
Sam Polnski—Friday, Jan. 17.

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THE PAGEANT OF FAERIE.

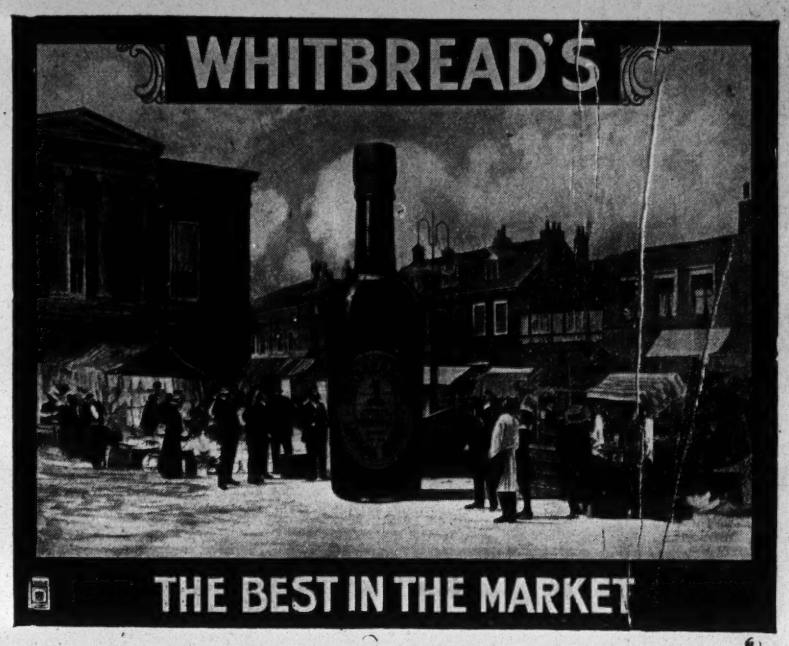
One of the most alluring attractions at the interesting and novel Children's Welfare Exhibition, now being held at Olympia, is the dainty and admirably arranged "Pageant of Faerie," designed and produced by Mr. Geoffrey Strahan. It is a charming spectacle, mainly performed by charming children, whose enthusiasm in their work it is a delight to watch; and a large audience on the afternoon of our visit gave them a most appreciative reception.

Mere mortals, of course, play a small part in the pageant of fairies, the slight story of which shows how Bobby, declaring that he does not believe the romances of childhood as related by grandma, is finally convinced of their existence. The House Fairy, with the aid of Puck, who calls up his herald, soon has the stage filled by all the familiar heroes and heroines of the youngsters, after Oberon and Titania, beautifully arrayed, arrive in a gorgeous white car. Little Red Riding Hood, Jack the Giant Killer and a most formidable-looking Giant, Cinderella, Puss in Boots, elves, sprites, gnomes, and other wonderful little people, come from the back of the building in their dozens. The quaint dance of the gnomes is capitally executed by the youngsters; and the East, West, South, and North Wind, who suddenly blow up the isle, give a graceful dance, as also does the Spirit of the Air.

Then the stern and spectacled Spirit of Learning comes on the scene, and admonishing Bob for being interested in the fairies, tries to lead him back to the study of things that matter. But the gnomes quickly drive the pedagogue away, and Bob again takes his place at the wonderful Court of Oberon and Titania. Then diminutive May Blossom, in the charming little person of Miss Esma Holderness, a pupil of Miss Lila Field, tripped in, and gave a delightful and clever toe dance. So enraptured was Bobby with the tiny maid that he was obliged to lift her up and kiss her; but, modest youth that he is, he seemed to be a little bit ashamed of his daring afterwards. And having convinced him of the existence of the fairies, Oberon and Titania dismiss their Court, Bobby and his brother and sister waving an affectionate farewell to all the delightful and wonderful people as they slowly depart. The excellently arranged and dainty dances were performed by pupils of Miss Ina Alston, Miss Lila Field, Miss Marjorie Gurney, Mrs. Pring, Miss Jeanie Smurthwaite, and Miss Helen Wiatt, who are to be congratulated on the success of their youthful charges; and the artistic costumes were designed by Mr. Geoffrey Strahan.

In the King's Theatre, Edinburgh, pantomime a hit is undoubtedly made by Miss Maude May Murray, who receives at every performance quite an ovation for the beautiful electrical dance act. Her "Silver butterfly" dance, under the sheen of revolving lights, is a dancing phantasy of surpassing interest, and in its way quite exquisite.

"I'll swear upon that bottle."
—*Tempest, Act ii., Scene ii.*



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ON SATURDAY NEXT, Jan. 18, at Seven, will be acted for the first time,
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"FATEMI LA CORTE" on Jan. 16, at 2.45 p.m., and Jan. 19, at 2.45 p.m. and 8.15 p.m.
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By ALBERT A. STRONG, LL.B. (London), Solicitor.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

THE ERA, July 30, 1910.
Important changes in the law affecting the amusement professions have been made since the issue, nine years ago, of the second edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's valuable book on Theatrical and Musical Law, and the third edition, just published, comes opportunely to hand. The work has been greatly enlarged, upwards of sixty additional pages being required to accommodate the mass of new information. The publication has been brought as nearly as possible up to date, and within its pages will be found analyses of important measures which have been adopted both in Parliament and out. There is, for instance, the full text of the recent Berlin Convention, and the new Copyright Act of the United States. The awards governing the relations between managers, artists, and agents are reproduced in their entirety, and a number of fresh cases illustrating the effect of the barring clauses is included.
The Musical Copyright Act, by which tardy justice was secured to song-writers and publishers, is given in full, and a digest of the measure, bringing out its salient features, is also printed. A whole chapter is now devoted to the subject of children on the stage, and the important question of the Workmen's Compensation Act is exhaustively dealt with. All the decisions of the Courts affecting theatres and music halls are referred to, many notable cases being recalled. The law governing dramatic and musical copyright is defined as clearly as its intricacies will allow, and a reliable indication of the methods to be adopted in securing protection is afforded. The progress made in the question of licensing has been too slow to allow of more than a reproduction of the terms of agreement entered into between the representatives of theatres and music halls regarding sketches, but pronouncements under that heading are numerous.

THE ENCORE, May 26, 1910.
We have just received the third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's book on Theatrical and Musical Law, which is published at "The Era" Office, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand. Since the second edition of his work was published—nine years—many changes have taken place in the laws relating to entertainments, and these have necessitated a considerable enlargement of the volume. Full texts of the recent Berlin Convention and the United States Copyright Law are included in this edition, in which is also published the awards governing the relations between artists, agents, and managers. A number of new cases are also cited illustrating the effects of the barring clause. The Musical Copyright Act, children on the stage, the sketch question, and the Workmen's Compensation Act are all fully dealt with and in a readable and easy style, as free as possible from legal phraseology and technicalities. It is a legal axiom that ignorance of the law is no excuse for breaking it, and, therefore, it behoves everyone connected with the entertainment world to make himself acquainted with the law as it stands in relation to the profession or business in which he may be engaged. To every one connected with the Drama or Variety Mr. Strong's book is a necessity, and this last edition is so comprehensive that anyone who consults it can have no possible excuse for infringing the law on the ground of ignorance. The work will, no doubt, have a ready and rapid sale, for all artists, managers, and agents should have it at hand.

THE PERFORMER, May 12, 1910.
THE ARTIST'S LEGAL HANDBOOK.
We welcome a third edition of Mr. Albert A. Strong's "Dramatic and Musical Law" ("The Era" Offices), as it is nine years since the second appeared, and much has happened since then, not least the foundation of the V.A.F. and the resultant Award of 1907. This will be found incorporated in the now greatly-improved and extended Appendix or Statutes, ranging from the Disorderly Houses Act, of 1751, to last year's L.C.C. Cinematograph regulations. As far as is possible with further developments in daily progress, this invaluable work of legal reference for all interested in the entertainment profession has been brought up to date. Sixty pages have been added, and the whole revised and rendered easier of reference, by the re-arrangements that have been made, and the numerous marginal headings that have been introduced. Strong, on "Dramatic and Musical Law," may be regarded as the layman's complete authority on the subject, whether he be PROPRIETOR, MANAGER, or ARTIST, and with a lucid explanation of the law so readily available, the artist will be wise to consult its pages before venturing on new contracts and agreements, whether as employed or—in these days of "combinations," sketches, troupes, and what not—as employer.

Published at "THE ERA" OFFICES,
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Saker, Late Mrs. Edward ..... Feb. 10, 1912
Sanger, Late Mr. George ..... Dec. 2, 1911
Scott, Mr. Bennett ..... Sept. 30, 1911
Sheen, Mr. W. P. ..... Jan. 6, 1912
Shippobottam, Mr. P. ..... March 2, 1912
Sinden, Miss Topsy ..... Sept. 14, 1912
Slater, Mr. Dundas ..... July 13, 1912
St. John, Late Miss Florence ..... Feb. 3, 1912
St. John, Mr. Gale ..... July 20, 1912
Summers, Late Miss Julia ..... Feb. 24, 1912
Swallow, Miss Margaret ..... Aug. 24, 1912
Swift, Mrs. Emma ..... June 22, 1912
Sydney, Mr. Roy G. ..... Aug. 3, 1912
Taaffe, Miss Ethel ..... Nov. 23, 1912
Talbot, Mr. Harry ..... Aug. 17, 1912
Tellegen, M. Lou ..... Oct. 12, 1912
Thorne, Miss Rosaline ..... Nov. 11, 1911
Travers, Miss Belle ..... July 22, 1911
Tschaikowsky, Miss Vera ..... Nov. 9, 1912
Tymes, The ..... Feb. 10, 1912
Vincent, Miss Ruth ..... July 27, 1912
Vondi, Miss Zella ..... Sept. 2, 1911
Wallett, Late Mr. Russell ..... March 16, 1912
Walton and Lester ..... Aug. 24, 1912
Ward, Mr. Theo. ..... Nov. 4, 1911
Watson, Mr. Douglas L. ..... Jan. 27, 1912
Weathersby, Late Mr. Geo. M. ..... Dec. 9, 1911
Webster, Mr. Ben ..... July 20, 1912
Wheatley, Mr. Horace ..... Aug. 5, 1911
Wilde, Miss Lilla ..... Sept. 16, 1911
Wilkinson, Miss Poppy ..... Nov. 25, 1911
Wilmot, Late Mr. John ..... Aug. 26, 1911
Wix, Miss Florence ..... Feb. 24, 1912
Wright, Late Mr. Fred. ..... Oct. 21, 1911
Wright, Mr. Lawrence ..... Dec. 2, 1911
Wynne, Miss Wish ..... Aug. 12, 1911
Zets, The Two (Leo and Dolly) ..... Dec. 30, 1911

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THE ERA

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11, 1913.

THE SHAKESPEARE MEMORIAL FUND.

The letter from Mr. CLARENCE DERWENT which we print on this page expresses, we are sure, the feeling of many who have supported the above-mentioned scheme, and approved of it in theory, if not with absolute confidence in the possibility of its practical realisation.

Since its inception the Shakespeare Memorial Fund has been rather injudiciously managed. For some time the originators endeavoured to keep our leading actors out of the committee, and courted the support of non-theatrical speakers. Finding that this plan did not bring in subscriptions they at last accepted the assistance of artistes like Mr. FORBES-ROBERTSON and Mr. MARTIN HARVEY, both of whom have worked very hard for the Fund, making speech after speech and collecting guinea after guinea by their exertions.

From the first the methods of those in charge of the Fund have been mysterious. There was the mysterious donor of the large sum which was the foundation of the enterprise. Everyone was asking us who he was, and if he was any relation to the immortal Mrs. HARRIS. We attempted, in vain, to get at the facts; and, when we wrote an article of enquiry, the late Sir GEORGE LEWIS was instructed to threaten us with an action for libel. However, the result of our running the risk of troublesome litigation in the interests of openness was to satisfy us that the donor of the sum was a gentleman of standing and position, and that the money was actually deposited in a leading London bank. This information was only extracted by inches, and was given by Sir GEORGE as a great favour.

We then gave the Fund our warmest support. We interviewed their secretary, and we inserted articles and illustrations connected with the scheme.

Years rolled on, and the other day we wrote to the secretary of the Fund asking if there would be any objection to our informing our readers of the amount collected up to date, and of what was being done in advancement of the scheme. The secretary's reply was to the effect that he was unable to give us any information unless instructed to do so by the committee.

As long as the money raised for the Shakespeare Memorial was subscribed and collected by non-theatrical people, the profession had no right, except as ordinary Englishmen, to enquire into the inner workings of the Fund. But now that Mr. FORBES-ROBERTSON, Mr. MARTIN HARVEY, and others have gathered hundreds of pounds for the Fund by their eloquence; now that London and provincial managers have lent their theatres for the delivery of speeches, the profession has a right to demand that this system of secrecy shall be abandoned. In the case of other "national" Funds, the subscriptions are published in the daily papers. We do not ask this in the case of the Shakespeare Memorial Fund, as the expense would be considerable. We shall be happy to publish, free of cost, in "The Era," the amounts collected, the names of the donors and collectors, and the progress of the scheme from month to month, and—as it seems likely to be necessary—from year to year.

Why does the secretary of the Shakespeare Memorial Fund say that he has no power to give any information about the state of the Fund without the consent of the committee? Why has not the Fund long ago taken the initiative, and voluntarily let the public and the profession know the financial position of the scheme, and, above all, what is being actually done about the National Theatre? The attitude of the Fund appears to be that of an entirely irresponsible body, not answerable to anyone for its acts or its inertia. This attitude we, and others, hope to render untenable. Part of the money, no doubt, has been supplied by a gentleman who, with a modesty that is as charming as it is rare in these days of self-advertisement, does not wish his name to appear. No one can complain of this desire or object to its being gratified. But very large sums have been earned for the Fund by the strenuous exertions of actors, and the profession has a right to demand the fullest information as to the condition and position of the Fund. Why is it that no annual balance-sheets are published, and procurable by every actor, showing the amounts subscribed and the amounts expended as time goes on? At the rate things are proceeding we may expect that many years will elapse before anything is done in the matter. Some of us who are well stricken in years may not live to see the foundation-stone of the National Theatre laid; but it would, at any rate, be a comfort to us to gaze, like a moribund MOSES, on the Promised Land, to read from time to time the reports of progress from Whitehall House.

We can see no reason whatever for any concealment in the case. A scheme of this sort, in which every Englishman is interested, and to which hundreds of Englishmen have subscribed, should be carried out with absolute openness and even ultra-publicity. Every donor, say, of over a pound to the Fund has the right to demand that a balance-sheet, giving the fullest details of what money has been collected, and how it is being spent, shall be sent to him quarterly. Why did the originators of the Fund, at first, throw cold water on the admission of actors to their ranks? Why did they refuse to have a representative of the Actors' Association on the committee? We consider that we have watched and waited long enough. As we have said, with the public interest in the matter we are less concerned than with the interest of the theatrical profession, some of the most eminent members of which have given themselves, heart and soul, to the scheme, and have collected hundreds for it by their earnestness and eloquence. In their names, and in the names of the profession we demand a full disclosure, with facts and figures, of the present state of the Shakespeare Memorial Fund, a balance-sheet of incomings and outgoings up to date, and a statement of what has been done, and what is being done, with the £120,000 which have been raised by public subscription for the erection of a National Theatre.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—May I be permitted to inquire through your columns whether that peculiarly inert body, the Executive Committee of the Shakespeare Memorial Fund, can inform subscribers—and incidentally the world at large—what steps, if any, are being taken to carry out the scheme, unanimously agreed upon three years ago at the Lyceum meeting, of providing London with a national theatre?

It will be remembered that as a result of this mass meeting, at which members of the House of Lords and representatives of labour vied with one another in their enthusiasm for the cause of a national theatre, the rival scheme commonly known as the Portland-place Statue project was abandoned, and the two committees decided to sink their differences and concentrate on the all-important question of the national theatre. This concentration appears to have exhausted the energy of both committees, and the result, so far as a spectator may judge, appears to be precisely—nothing.

I propose raising the whole question next month at the annual meeting of the Actors' Association, but in the meantime beg leave to ask one or two questions on which the public has a right to be enlightened.

Firstly, will the committee be good enough to say what steps have been taken with regard to the resolution passed at the mass meeting that the Government and the L.C.C. should both be approached with a view to making a grant out of the public funds?

Secondly, what balance-sheets are issued in connection with this fund; what control is there over the subscriptions; how often do either the general or executive committees meet; and, in short, what is being done with the £120,000 raised by public subscription for the purpose of building a national theatre?

Thirdly, with what object have those in control persistently refused the very natural request of the Actors' Association for representation on the executive committee, although the Association is the only public body which in and out of season has proclaimed its devotion to the cause of the national theatre?

The theatrical profession, and the younger members more especially, have this matter in their own hands. If their demand is strong and continuous, the national theatre will gradually loom into the domain of practical politics, but if they succumb to the prevailing apathy, no public meetings, no resolutions, and no benedictions from those "in high places," will serve to give London the only fitting memorial to the greatest English citizen.

May I add that this letter is written in no spirit of hostility to those at present in charge of the movement, but is merely the outcome of a desire to "get moving" on the part of one who has always had this cause very deeply at heart.—Yours faithfully, CLARENCE DERWENT.

30, Holland Park-gardens, W.

THE ACTING OF GREAT ACTORS.

BY THE EDITOR.

No. II.—MRS. SIDDONS.

I suppose, in these times of watchful wit, it is necessary for me to state that, though I put the great Sarah of the past under the head of "actors," I am aware of her sex, and only do so to save altering the title of the series.

In the minds of the present generation Mrs. Siddons is identified with Lady Macbeth. We always imagine her saying, "Give me the daggers!" or complaining that all the perfumes of Arabia would not sweeten her little hand. This impression is not exactly that which Mrs. Siddons made on her contemporaries. In her earlier period she refused to "depict" the wife of the Thane of Cawdor or Medea, "not looking upon them as female characters." She only fell back on Lady Macbeth, Queen Katharine, and Volumnia as her figure altered.

And what a figure it was! Slightly above the middle size, but not inclined to embonpoint, with just sufficient muscle to bestow roundness upon the limbs, and not so much as to make the contours masculine; so exquisitely proportioned that Hamilton, the Scotch academician, compared it to that of the statue of Ariadne on his staircase; made supple by much washing and ironing in her early days, and much energetic acting in her later period; proportioned like the Milo Venus, with a short torso and long legs, longest from the knee to the ankle, and full of grace and energy, Mrs. Siddons's body was the ideal of feminine strength, symmetry, and "fitness."

Of the beauty of her features, her portraits, one fancies, give us but a moderate idea. Contemporary critics speak of the wondrous splendour of her eyes. If we may trust Gainsborough's portrait, these were not very large; but all agree that they were "darkly, deeply, beautifully" brown. Her nose was a trifle too long—"Damn it, ma'am, there's no end to your nose!" said Gainsborough in despair; but she had a full underlip, whose significance was belied by the more commanding feature of her face, the family nose of the Kemble family. The essential quality of her was her queenliness. She was one of the beauties of her day, and there is no record of anyone ever having tried to flirt with her. Volumes could not say more.

The speciality of the English stage is the production of virtuous actresses. When one thinks of the morals of Rachel, and of the many lively ladies whose peccadilloes Mr. Francis Gribble has, rather unkindly, collected in his recent book, the fact that Mrs. Siddons lived and died above suspicion is nothing less than a triumph for her country and climate. Here, then, we have the ideal equipment for an actress: a first-rate face and figure, plenteous histrionic gift, and no nonsense.

Her Early Aspirations.

She did not want to be a tragic actress at all. Any stories about her coming to London and swearing an oath to some day play Lady Macbeth at Drury Lane must be received with suspicion. Mrs. Siddons, in 1772, was a very pretty woman of lively emotions, who was sent away to be companion to a lady of quality because she insisted on marrying the man of her choice at the age of eighteen, and had been playing Ariel in "The Tempest" and Rosetta in "Love in a Village"; who had burst out laughing at a critical moment in Murphy's "Grecian Goddess," and had enacted Leonora in that miniature musical play, "The Padlock." Even when Bates discovered her at Worcester, he wrote to Garrick that it was in genteel comedy that Sarah was likely to succeed. Of her seven favourite parts at this time four were comic and three tragic; and it was as Portia that she made her first and only fiasco at Drury Lane, in 1775. It should be remembered that one of her causes of dislike to Garrick at this period was his having frowned at her to remind her that she was "frivolling" on the stage instead of attending to business.

But though these facts may be useful as modifying our imagination of Mrs. Siddons as all severity, it must be confessed that she had very little natural fun in her. The mistake is to identify her memory with that of the stiff and pompous Kemble family, to which she belonged. She was an original, spontaneous, imaginative actress. Everyone knows Charles Young's description of her business as Volumnia in the triumphal procession in "Coriolanus." No mere recitress could have invented this; no declaimer could have carried it out. No doubt, in her old age, she may have become a trifle "superior," though there is no proof of this. Her elocution and enunciation were always perfect, but she was a mistress of technique, and used it with ease. She had all the classicality and style which come from strict early training in distinctness, elocution, and attitude; and, with it all, she was no mere mechanical "spouter" of blank verse, but a woman of deep feeling and ardent imagination, with a keen sense of pathos. Her physical strength, which was remarkable, and her excellent constitution, enabled her to undergo an amount of strain and to expend an amount of energy which, in the case of a weaker vessel, would have proved exorbitant. It should also be noted that her entire freedom from any sort of dissipation, and the way in which she seems to have kept herself in training by the practice of the virtue of temperance, gave her a large fund of reserve force to fall back upon.

Her Secret.

The secret of Mrs. Siddons's success was her capacity for feeling a part in its intensity. For proof, take the following account which she gave of her first study of Lady Macbeth:—

"It was my custom to study my characters at night, when all the domestic cares and business of the day were over. On the night preceding that in which I was to appear in this part for the first time, I shut myself up as usual, when all the family were retired, and commenced my study of Lady Macbeth. As the character is very short, I thought I should soon accomplish it. Being then only twenty years of age, I believed that little more was necessary than to get the words into my head, for the necessity of discrimination, and the development of character, at that time of my life, had scarcely entered into my imagination. But to proceed. I went on with tolerable composure, in the silence of the night (a night I never can forget), till I came to the assassination scene, when the horrors of the scene rose to a degree that made it impossible for me to get farther. I snatched up my candle, and hurried out of the room in a paroxysm of terror. My dress was of silk, and the rustling of it, as I ascended the stairs to go to bed, seemed to my panic-struck fancy like the movement of a spectre pursuing me. At last I reached my chamber, where I found my husband fast asleep. I clapt my candlestick down upon the table, without the power of putting the candle out, and I threw myself on my bed without daring to stay even to take off my clothes."

Or take Macready's testimony to the actual result of study of this sort on the stage, in her performance of Mrs. Beverley in "The Gamester."

"Her glaring eyes were fixed in stony blankness on Beverley's face; the powers of life seemed suspended in her; her sister and Lewson gently raised her, and slowly led her unresisting from the body, her gaze never for an instant averted from it; when they reached the prison door she stopped, as if awakened from a trance, with a shriek of agony that would have pierced the hardest heart, and, rushing from them, flung herself, as if for union in death, on the prostrate form before her."

"Through her feeble frame and the death-stricken expression of her features, she displayed that morbid fretfulness of look, that restless desire of changing place and position, which frequently attends death. She sought relief from the irritability of illness by often shifting her situation in her chair; having the pillows against which she was propped every now and then removed and readjusted; bending forward and sustaining herself, while speaking, by the pressure of her hands upon her knees; and playing amongst her drapery with restless and uneasy fingers."

That she kept in the character from the rise of the curtain to its fall; that she regarded etiquette and social observances as "necessary but ridiculous"; that she had six children, and no sense of humour; that her behaviour and deportment satisfied Dr. Johnson; that she liked a glass of good beer and a plate of roast beef and became so stout that her seat stuck to her when she got up suddenly while playing Queen Katharine—all show Mrs. Siddons as a sub'ime British matron of the drama, a type which foreigners may envy, but which they will always be unable to imitate.

EDMUND KEAN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—In your interesting article on the acting of Edmund Kean I note a request to anyone who may have heard from others anything about Kean's acting. I may say, it was by no means uncommon when I was young to meet with those who had seen him act, and also actors who had been on the stage with him. But on one thing they all agreed—that he was by far the greatest actor they ever saw. The late Mr. Newcome, who for fifty years was manager of the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, has often told me that, when a young man, he, with others, had often walked from Bath to Bristol (twelve miles) to see Kean when engaged there, walking back after the performance.

An old actor told me he had been with Kean in small country theatres before the memorable night at Drury Lane at which he was present, delighted to think his chance had come, as he had always considered him the best he ever saw. When in Jersey a good many years ago I was introduced by the late W. Rousby, then manager of the theatre there, to John Lee, then a very old gentleman, living retired there. Now if anyone knew anything about Edmund Kean it was John Lee, for he was Kean's manager for years and resided with him. W. Rousby was a very good actor, and when about to play any of the parts in which Kean was so famous he was instructed before by Mr. Leo in all Kean did.—Yours faithfully, GEORGE TWEDDELL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

SIR,—Your "Acting of Great Actors—Mr. Edmund Kean," I read with great interest. When I was a young man I had the pleasure to meet and talk with no less than four old actors who had played with the late Edmund Kean—Mr. S. Phelps, Mr. Waldron, Mr. Guest, and Mr. James Noel—and have seen them give imitations of how Mr. Kean played different parts, which I carry in my mind even now. Mr. Noel and Mr. Waldron both said that his voice was not naturally harsh, but that he to a great extent assumed it to give more weight to the character he was playing. Mr. Kean had a melodious voice and was a good singer, and could and did sing well such old songs as "Did you hear of the (or a) jolly young waterman?" and the ballad "Then farewell, my trim-built wherry," both of which he often sang. His eyes were large, dark, and very brilliant. This is proved by a portrait that I have of Mr. Kean. I have also a portrait of Mr. Kean's mother, and she has the same full eye.

I have often called on the late Mr. James Noel, for I used to be in Plymouth every three months on my business. Mr. Noel kept the inn called the Prince George; in the yard of this inn Mr. Samuel Phelps made his first appearance in a travelling theatre which was pitched there. Mr. Noel told me that Mr. Kean was about 5ft. 7in., and not so small as Mr. Barry Proctor, Mr. Cotton, and Mr. Molloy each make out in the different lines they have written of Mr. Kean. Mr. Noel said that Mr. Kean was very fond of swimming, and he has accompanied him when he has gone to swim, and he has told me he was very beautifully made, and not the low and meagre figure that many said he was.

I could go on writing, but fear I have already run on a lap too much. I forgot to tell you that I have had relations who have seen Mr. Kean act, and they all say that his voice was only harsh in parts like Shylock, Richard III., and Sir Giles Overreach; but in parts such as Tom Tug, Earl Osmond, and the Duke Aranza, etc., his voice was not harsh.

I am now only connected with the stage as far as the sale of English and American posters are concerned.—I am, dear sir, yours respectfully.

C. W. CHASE.

21, Earl's Court Gardens, Kensington.
Jan. 7, 1913.

[P.S.—The late Mr. Noel's son is still alive and may be able to tell you more about Mr. Kean than I know.]

"SAKUNTALA" REVIVED.

The man who "forgot he was married" and figured recently in a charge of bigamy, had a distinguished predecessor in the hero of "Sakuntala," the ancient Indian play, a translation of which was produced at the Royal Albert Hall Theatre on Wednesday afternoon. The original is the work of Kalidasa, the most celebrated of Indian dramatists, who flourished about the middle of the third century. The first English translation of "Sakuntala" was made by Sir William Jones in 1790, A.D., and since then there have been more than fifty different renderings of the drama in various languages. The first performance in English was given at the Botanic Gardens, Regent's Park, in the summer of 1899.

The version under notice is adapted by K. N. Das Gupta from the original Sanskrit text, and the translations of Professor Ryder and many others, and was revived under the auspices of the Indian Art, Dramatic, and Friendly Society. The work is a curious mixture of the human and super-human, and possesses passages of undeniable beauty. The play is given in nine episodes, seven of which take place in the forest near the Hermitage of Kanwa. Here it is that the King of India falls in love with Sakuntala, and the girl responds. She comes under the curse of an angry sage, and loses her betrothal ring. Simultaneously the King loses his memory, and when his betrothed goes to take her place at Court she is repudiated and sent away. She is mysteriously translated into the mystic grove of Kashyapa, where the King, to whom the ring, found by a fisherman in the mouth of a fish, has been restored, finds her after many years of seeking, and the pair are reunited.

The piece was treated with every care by the performers. Miss Muriel Ashwynne was a comely Sakuntala, and acted with real emotional fervour. The King had a courtly exponent in Mr. J. Herbert Beaumont, who looked well in his Eastern attire, and spoke with convincing effect. Dignity and power were given to the part of the Chief Hermit by Mr. Percy C. West; while a gleam of humour was let in by the comical portrayal of the Jester given by Mr. Guy Fane. Meritorious work was done by Miss Olga Ward and Miss Adela Weekes as Sakuntala's companions; and other parts in the long cast were adequately played. Five performances are announced of the piece, which will be repeated to-night and in the afternoon of Jan. 25.

THE DRAMA IN BERLIN.

"DER AUSTAUSCH-LEUTNANT."

Farce, in Three Acts, by MM. Wilde and Von Negelein, Produced at the Royal Schauspielhaus, Dec. 31.

Oberst von Göllnitz .....Herr von Ledebour
Frau von Göllnitz .....Frau Butze
Olga .....Fräulein Heisler
Von Falkenberg .....Herr Patry
Gerhard .....Herr Clewing
Von Degenfeldt .....Herr Vogt
Achim .....Herr Boettcher
Eichner .....Herr Werrack
Haim .....Herr Mannstadt
Jeremiah Jefferson .....Herr Vollmer
Daisy .....Fräulein Arnstedt
Cook .....Herr Vallentin
Gerda .....Fräulein Thimig
Ordannanz .....Herr Zeisler
Hansen .....Herr Eichholz
Frau Hansen .....Fräulein Hoff

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

BERLIN, Thursday.—The Royal Schauspielhaus has not produced anything approaching a novelty for a very long time, the management contenting itself with an occasional revival. It is little, indeed, that our State theatres do for the public entertainment, and the few new works they do produce are not, as a rule, anything out of the common. The new farce is the work of collaborators as yet unknown to fame, but they evidently know their audience. A piece with a military milieu is always a safe draw on a German stage, and with careful treatment—such as, for instance, the introduction of a tremendous display of enthusiasm on the part of Americans for the German army organisation and for his Imperial Majesty—it may easily become a signal success. Such is the case with "The Exchange Lieutenant." On New Year's Eve, moreover, an audience in Berlin is always very easily pleased, so that altogether the reception of the new farce was everything that the authors could desire. There is not much plot, but what there is is well padded out with good-humoured fun, and the characters are all of the most amiable description. The hero is Gerhard van Falkenberg, a smart young Uhlan lieutenant, and the heroine is Daisy Jefferson, the charming daughter of a multi-millionaire—an American, of course. The young couple love each other passionately, but there is an obstacle—Daisy is engaged to a business friend of "Poppa's," a certain Mr. James Cook; but this is not an affair of the heart, and the energetic Daisy sets to work to break the bond. She does it very skilfully, and the scruples of the very honourable Prussian officer are handled delicately. Mr. Cook proves amenable, and so everything ends harmoniously. Daisy's good-natured father supplies the enthusiasm for Germany and its Emperor that always catches on with a Royal Theatre audience, and the jovial colonel and commander of the regiment, von Göllnitz, is another sympathetic figure. The colonel's daughter Olga is a charming maiden, and there are several amusing incidental episodes that help to make the whole entertaining. The interpretation was good throughout, and both authors were called numerous times before the curtain and heartily applauded.

Another successful New Year's Eve performance was that of Offenbach's "Die schöne Helena" at the Nollendorf Platz Theatre. It was, of course, a great attraction that the popular soubrette, Fritzi Massary, gave the title-rôle, and the star was capitally supported all round.

"Fiorenza," a three-act drama by Thomas Mann, which was produced some six or seven years ago, was revived at the Chamber Plays of the Deutsches Theatre last week. Its reception was not any more cordial than it was at the production. The Florentine play is too long, and its drawn out monologues try the patience of the audience. The cultured language does not atone for the lack of all dramatic action, and neither does the very excellent acting.

The New Free Stage Society, which has done such good work here the past twenty-two years, is about to build its own theatre in the east of Berlin. The ground has already been acquired, the building is to be as elegant as any at the West End, and it is a significant proof of the esteem in which the society is held that the municipality has decided to assist it with a very substantial sum of money. The house will seat 2,000 persons, and will be built at a cost of something over £200,000.

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Maclennan are saying farewell to Berlin in June, after having been prominent members of the Berlin Royal Opera Company for five years. They will be very much missed, but our loss is the gain of the popular artistes. Mr. and Mrs. Maclennan have received a most flattering offer from the Hamburg Opera House, and have accepted it without hesitation. The conditions are quite exceptionally favourable, the salaries being greatly in advance of those of the Berlin Opera, while for five months in the year the "artiste pair" will be at liberty to tour wherever they please. The Hamburg Opera House takes, moreover, a far higher artistic rank than the Royal Opera here.

THE GERMAN THEATRE COMPANY.

The German Theatre Company, under the direction of Herr Gerald Weiss, gave a performance of Arthur Schmitzler's three-act play, "Lieblei; or, Light o' Love," at Cosmopolis, High Holborn, on Wednesday evening. In the character of Christine Fräulein Lena Wirth did not seem to be as well cast as is usually the case with this charming actress, and although she worked up to a convincing climax in Act III. earlier in the evening she appeared a little to miss the mark. Fräulein Elsa Lessing acted very naturally as Mizi, and with Herr Reinhold Griff carried the play on her shoulders. Herr Heinrich Victor was inclined to be a little monotonous in the trying part of Fritz Lobheimer, but Herr Fritz Fluhrer gave a good account of himself as the violin player, Hans Weiring. Fräulein Gertrud Helbig and Phyllis Steele gave good support in the parts of Katharina Binder and her daughter Lina, and Herr Gerald Weiss, who produced, contented himself with the small part of Ein Herr. The play will be repeated at a matinée at Cosmopolis on Jan. 18.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Right Hon. Lloyd George, M.P., was amongst those present at the Haymarket Theatre on the 3rd inst. to see "The Younger Generation."

Mr. J. Chas. Humphrys, acting-manager for Mr Graham Moffat, writes:—"There appears to be a general impression that Mr. Graham Moffat's manager is Mr. Percy Humphrys (my father) instead of myself, and on several occasions correspondence intended for my father has been misdirected to me. My father's many friends seem to doubt that he has a son old enough to undertake the duties of acting-management. This, however, is not the case. Prior to joining Mr. Moffat I was with Messrs. Howard and Wyndham at the Royal and Royalty Theatres, Glasgow. I have been on tour, and during both seasons of the Festival of Empire at the Crystal Palace I was upon that staff, after which I was five seasons acting-manager for Mr. Alfred Wareing at the Glasgow Repertory Theatre, where I met Mr. Graham Moffat."

VARIETY GOSSIP

Sir George Alexander has at last yielded to the blandishments of Mr. Alfred Butt, and has completed an arrangement with the Palace Theatre managing-director to appear at that house on Monday, Jan. 27. Sir George has no part in the new play "Turandot," that he is producing at the St. James's, and the interregnum will, we are sure, be most agreeably occupied. His advent at the Palace Theatre will be associated with the production of a new one-act piece by Max Beerbohm, entitled "A Social Success."

It was Mr. Alfred Butt who persuaded Sir Herbert Tree to come to the Palace with "The Man Who Was." He has now captured Sir George Alexander. Sir Charles Wyndham is the only one of the trio of actor-knights who has not yet been on the variety stage, where his presence would be heartily welcomed.

The seventh annual general meeting of the Variety Artistes' Federation will be held on Sunday, Jan. 26, at the Criterion Restaurant. Saturday next, Jan. 18, is the last day on which nominations for the Executive Committee may be received. A candidate for any office in the Federation must be a bona-fide member (male), over 21 years of age, and in full benefit at the date of his proposal and election. A candidate for any office must give his consent in writing, and be proposed by two members in full benefit.

"Maison Decolletée" is the title of an operetta by Erich Urban and Louis Taufstein, which has been Englished by George Arthur. The music is by Martin Knopf, and there is an additional number by Louis Reeder. That brilliant stage-manager, Mr. Sydney Ellison, has been engaged to produce it, and it will be seen on Monday at the London Pavilion. A strong cast includes Miss Nan Stuart, so well known as a Lyceum favourite; Miss Winifred Delevanti, who for awhile played Zoe in "Baby Mine" at the Vaudeville; Mr. W. Warren Foster and Mr. George Danvers. A full chorus supports. The curtain will rise on the new piece at 9.15.

At the Church of Our Lady of Victories (better known, perhaps, as the Pro-Cathedral), Kensington, on Wednesday, Miss Johanna Redmond, younger daughter of Mr. John Redmond, the leader of the Irish party, was married to Mr. Max S. Green, chairman of the Irish Prison Board. Miss Redmond is well known as a clever dramatist, and her Irish sketch, "Falsely True," was successfully produced by Mr. Alfred Butt at the Palace Theatre on March 6, 1911.

Miss Adeline Genée, after her very successful engagement at the Metropolitan Opera House, New York, began a series of special matinées at the Park Theatre, on the 26th ult. For the opening of her programme she repeated "La Danse," in which she assumed the rôles of various famous dancers, and illustrated the development of the art of ballet dancing. Then, assisted by Mr. Volinin, Miss Genée appeared in the ballet from "Robert le Diable" and in other dances. The audience enjoyed the delightful entertainment most heartily.

It is reported that Harry Lauder has refused a fee of £500 to sing at a smoking concert organised by the American Tobacco Company's officials on the ground that he was earning enough already.

Harry Lauder began a week's engagement at New York Casino on the 23rd ult., and the house was packed at every performance. Lauder appeared in the afternoon and evening, and received the vociferous welcome that always awaits him in the city. A detachment of pipers stirred up curiosity along the "great white way" and let everyone know that Lauder was back on Broadway. His new songs and characterisations found instant appreciation, and his jovial sallies were received with the utmost enthusiasm and good humour.

Mr. John E. Kellerd, who is playing Hamlet at the Garden Theatre, New York, has offered the use of that house and his entire supporting company to Harry Lauder, having heard that the latter is anxious to appear as Hamlet. So far, however, Mr. Lauder has not accepted. Friends of Harry consider that Macbeth, who is, after all, a fellow-countryman, has greater claims upon his consideration. Americans would dearly love to see the Thane of Dunoon as the Thane of Cawdor.

Mr. Fred Karno is going to give the amusement world a garden of pleasure, a recreative pleasaunce, by the marge of the silvery Thames, whose riparian glories have inspired so many poets. Whether Fred will introduce us to river-spirits, golden-tressed, blue-eyed, in dazzling raiment, when we run down to see him in leafy June at Tagg's Island, we know not; but what is quite certain is that he is carrying out extensive alterations at that popular rendezvous, so as to provide entertainment during the summer months. Mr. Stanley Woodhouse (his solicitor), on Monday, at Feltham Police Court, in making the necessary application for a transfer to the Chairman of the Bench, said that Mr. Karno had been catering for the public for many years. The new project should give a great scope to various schemes that the new proprietor of Tagg's has in his mind's eye. He will have the support of the profession.

The ballets arranged by Miss Pauline Rivers, the clever maitresse de ballet, are distinguished by the capital dancing of the Twelve Little Sunshines, a crowd of juveniles led by Little Emmie and Bessie. This week the crowd are at Ashton-under-Lyne, where the Rivers divertissements have been acclaimed as spectacles of great charm, the solo dancing being specially appreciated.

The gigantic minstrel show at the Palladium has caught on. Packed houses are the order of the day, and from 2.30 to 5 o'clock the house is ringing with the laughter of young and old alike. And this minstrel business is a very fine excuse for the elders to take an afternoon at the theatre instead of their business, starting with the story that they are going to "take the children." The writer noticed one day eight uncles and aunts bringing one nephew Eustace Gray is adding some new numbers next week.

The only legitimate circus in London at the present time is "Sir" Robert Fossett's, at the Agricultural Hall. Thousands of youngsters have been delighted by the arena clowns and arena equestrians, and looming largely in the Fossett scheme of amusement are the Three Royal Ohmys, whose great act is meeting with the most brilliant success. Sir Robert, who knows a good act when he sees it, has signified his pleasure this week by presenting the famous trio with handsome gold medals, suitably inscribed. The kindly act, we need scarcely add, is deeply appreciated by the recipients.

Exceptional interest was taken in the emergency meeting of the Proscenium Lodge held at the Chelsea Town Hall on Tuesday. The reigning Master, Mr. Charles J. Doughty, presided, and was supported by Messrs. Frank Hardie (S.W.), Monte Bayly (J.W.). Harry Bawn (S.D.), John Grant (J.D.), and Carl Muller (acting I.G.).

There were also present Mr. Wolfe Lyon (treasurer), G. A. Keen (secretary), W. F. K. Walton, Frank W. Norris, A. Bernstein, W. H. Goy, E. T. R. Lester, Beresford Whitcomb, Ben Obo, R. W. Willis, A. Burridge, Harold Finden, S. Montague Austin, Sidney Lyndon (organist), Carl Lynn, A. Rameses, Douglas Stuart, Fred Lyster, W. H. Kirby, Fred Alexander, H. Ainsley, John Enzer, Arthur Were, Fred McAvoy, John Worth, Walter Hitch, Amandus, C. L. Adams, W. Dufton, Fred Roma, John Hickembottom, Stanley Palmer, and Jack Barker.

Mr. Doughty availed himself of the opportunity of investing Mr. Frank Hardie as his senior warden, engagements at a distance having prevented Mr. Hardie from occupying his position until now. Mr. Doughty then extended to Mr. Harry Bawn the compliment of admitting his two managers, Messrs. Alexander and Ainsley, to the mysteries of the Craft, after which Mr. Doughty admitted Mr. Enzer to similar privileges. The Master likewise advanced Messrs. Lynn and Barker to the rank of Master Masons.

These ceremonies completed, the whole of the brethren adjourned to the Six Bells for light refreshment and the customary toasts. These were of necessity short, as the whole of the company working at the Edmonton Empire were present, and for their convenience and the comfort of guests Mr. Harry Bawn had engaged a private motor 'bus to convey all and sundry to the Edmonton Empire. This invitation was readily accepted, and apart from a slight shave down Park-lane the trip was made without incident.

On arrival at the Edmonton Empire, the travellers were hospitably entertained by Mr. Bawn, who then placed the boxes at their disposal. A souvenir programme, "for private circulation only," carrying the portraits of the entire company, together with their masonic record, was much in demand, for the signatures of all concerned, as a striking memento of an unique event successfully carried out. As a slight mark of appreciation the participants in this outing decided there and then to make the genial host a slight testimonial as a further mark of their esteem. The company at Edmonton this week is noticed in another column.

Billy Lee and Frank Joy, members of "The Wild Australia" company, were rivals for the hand of the Fair Bonita, the crack shot of the company. They agreed to ride a race to decide their fate. The race took place on Thursday, not far from Colchester. Billy Lee won, and rode off with the future Mrs. Lee in front of him.

Mr. Syd Walker, who is at the Marlborough, Holloway, in pantomime, has issued to his friends a specially designed calendar, in which a jester in cap and bells, mounted on a broom, is riding in the blue vault high above the roofs of three of the principal London halls towards a smiling sun. A couple of "tripe-hounds" at the foot of the calendar are gazing with agitated glances at the portrait of the versatile Sydney, framed in laurel.

At the Hippodrome, Preston, on Thursday, Jan. 2, during the performance of Alman Correze juggler, his assistant, Jack Smith, professionally known as Jackaway, suddenly collapsed and expired on the stage before there was any chance of medical aid reaching him. Deceased was taking part in the turn, and Correze for the moment thought that Smith was trying new "business." Then seeing something was wrong, he had the curtain lowered. On medical aid being obtained from the auditorium life was found to be extinct. Mr. Percy Broadhead generously defrayed the funeral expenses, and also headed a subscription list for the poor fellow's widow, to whom much practical sympathy has been shown by artistes performing in the town.

We have read in a daily of the plight of Michael Ford, originally one of the Two Mikes, whose act ran on much the same lines as the Two Macs, brought by John Hollingshead to the Gaiety. The Mikes, however, introduced the axe business, whereby that weapon, by an ingenious contrivance, was apparently "lodged" in the brain of one of them. They started, like many another star, at the Sebright, Hackney-road, where they were brought out by George Belmont, who gave Marie Lloyd one of her very earliest engagements. Poor Ford lost his money as a licensed victualler, and after various vicissitudes is reduced to getting his living as a bootblack. He endures the frowns of fortune with a cheerful heart.

These Rag-timers come "not in single spies but in battalions." On Monday, for the first time in London, will be heard the Fourteen Rag-time Tromboniers, a party of instrumentalists who bring an entirely new répertoire of syncopated music to the Victoria Palace. The Empire management also announce Rag-timers among the new turns next week. Messrs. Conrad and Whidden are a duo of players and singers, and their act embraces the most popular of the latest rag-tunes, many of them being their own composition. Other novelties secured by Mr. Arthur Aldin are the celebrated Manchu troupe of Chinese artistes, late Court magicians and entertainers to the Imperial Palace, Pekin, under the direction of Colonel Ma Tse Young, of the Chinese Republican Army, and Margot François and partner in a tumbling act on stilts.

Miss Louisa Peach has been scoring another big success this week at Mr. Matt Raymond's hall, Walthamstow, where she is a great favourite, making her fifteenth return during the last three years. This time she has been doing a revival of her domestic sketch, "The Sin and the Sorrow," supported by Messrs. Edwin Bennett, Frank Cariello, and Sydney Teversham. On Jan. 20 Miss Peach goes to the Granville, Walham Green, with her duologue, "In a Corner," which she has been playing just recently at several of the syndicate halls, supported by Mr. Charles Lind Vivian.

The variety stage is a source of endless romance, and the truths concerning it are frequently stranger, by far, than the stories told by the numerous writers of stage fiction. The almost sensational rise to popular favour of a now well-known "double turn" lends prominence to the fact that not only are both partners public school men, but, until a very short while ago, both were holding commissions in His Majesty's Service, the one in the Northamptonshire Regiment and the other in the Marines. Unfortunately, we have not the permission of these erstwhile subalterns to divulge their names, but, as they are already so popular with the profession, as well as the public, many of my readers who have met the couple will have no difficulty in guessing their identity. We admire their enterprise as we enjoy their act. Both do them infinite credit, and we wish them every success.

Mr. Fred Russell, the popular ventriloquist, after an absence of considerable duration in Australia and South Africa, will arrive to-day at Southampton on board the R.M.S. Kildonan Castle.

Our readers will be glad to hear that Miss Victoria Monks is much better, and that her state of health is no longer a cause of anxiety to her many friends. She expects to leave the nursing home during the next few days.

The Oxford announces for Monday next, Jan. 13, the production of "Marked Money," a detective episode by John J. O'Connor, a well-known American author and journalist. The parts will be played by Mr. Leslie Carter, Miss Violet Lewis, and Mr. Robert Minster; and it is anticipated that the sketch will prove as successful in England as it has done in the United States.

Ray and Calder, who are returning to South Africa to-day, sail from Southampton by the Balmoral Castle. On this, their second visit to the Rand and Rhodesia within twelve months, they play for Africa's Amalgamated Theatres Co. They became very popular on their last tour, and are looking forward to a renewal of their success.

Miss Dorma Morgan, who is playing the title-rôle, Jack Horner, at the Opera House, Leicester, has been re-engaged by the same management to star as principal boy, 1913-14, an option that was taken up immediately she opened. Messrs. Bode and Graham have also taken an option on Miss Morgan's services for 1914-15 and 1915-16. Mr. J. F. Graham adds in a letter to Miss Morgan: "I hope to think that your association with us will be as pleasant in the future as it has been for the past two seasons."

The Elliott-Savonas have returned from their most successful tour in the States, where they have had a most enjoyable time. They went away for six months, and stayed eight, covering many thousands of miles. Their "Palace of Orpheus," with its magnificent setting and beautiful music, has been the theme of praise in every city visited. After a week or two's rest they open at the Empire, Sheffield, on Jan. 27.

Mr. Martin Adeson as the Baroness in "Cinderella" at the Gaiety Theatre, Dublin, is fulfilling his third season as Dame in the Irish capital in seven years. Mr. Adeson has several offers for next season. At the conclusion of the pantomime, in which he is making a real hit, he will resume, with Miss Clara Bernard, his engagements in the music halls with "Dr. Mande's First Patient" and "The Doubtful Policy."

Rag-time has been described as the agitation and intoxication of syncopation; but whatever musical purists may think about it, it has certainly caught on at the Hippodrome, where Mr. Frank Allen and Mr. Albert de Courville and Mr. Fred Trussell are rejoicing in packed houses. "Hullo, Rag-time!" indeed, may be described as a kaleidoscope of beauty and colour, and there is plenty of honest, clean fun. One is completely taken captive by the versatility of Miss Ethel Levey, the charm of Miss Shirley Kellogg, and the clever little scena shared by Lew Hearn and Bonita of the fine proportions. Miss Dorothy Minto was out of the bill on Monday afternoon and evening, but her understudy seemed to be doing very well. Record business is thoroughly well deserved, for there is no moment of dulness in the show from first to last.

We were sorry to find, on Monday evening, that neither Fregolia, G. H. Chirgwin, nor Mlle. Eldee were able to appear at the Oxford. The popular protean actress was suffering from a severe cold. Hers, however, was a 'busman's holiday. Seated with her husband, Mons. Gorgias, in the stalls, Mlle. Fregolia took the opportunity of seeing the whole performance. She was especially amused by George Formby's new gag, in which, having borrowed some of her wardrobe, he does several burlesque quick changes at the conclusion of his turn. When Formby immediately follows Fregolia, which happened on Tuesday, when that popular lady returned to the bill, the humour of the idea was even more striking. In place of Fregolia Harry Tate appeared in "Motoring" on Monday. Chirgwin made his appearance on Wednesday evening.

Such a meteoric rise to popularity as that of Will Hay is not often recorded. He is Will Oliver's New Year surprise. Introduced to London audiences at the Palace Theatre at the latter end of November last year, he was re-booked after the first night at an increase. On Monday he opened on the Stoll time at the Hippodrome, Manchester, and is already re-booked to return there in September this year. Indeed, this Hay has quite a stack of contracts. Among others who have secured him are Mr. Paul Murray for the Variety Theatres Controlling Co., and Mr. Charles Gulliver for the London Theatres of Varieties; and he holds dates in 1915.

A really enjoyable time can be spent at the Fancy Dress Ball in aid of the funds of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild. The ladies of the profession, dressed as geishas, gitanas, historic heroines, and even as the goddesses of fable, "take the flure" with hidalgos, Oriental potentates, jesters, friars, and imps of darkness. We have seen a small and timid member of the fourth estate—without the glad eye—dancing with a Hebe of magnificent proportions habited as Britannia. By the way he clasped her, or tried to do so, the heavy-footed one was dancing with a complete sense of detachment. He certainly wavered in his allegiance to the lady who rules the waves and does not rule them straight. The ball is fixed for Feb. 2 at the Trocadero.

Miss Florrie Forde, the latest actress-impresario, has brought her "Babes in the Wood" pantomime company to the Rotherham Hippodrome, where audiences of gigantic proportions have been heartily enjoying the feast of fun and fancy that is to be found in the nine scenes. The dresses, the ballets, and the acting are of the best. Miss Forde's gallant hero has a sweet principal girl in Miss Stella Esdaile, Miss Flora Carlton is a dainty comedienne from Australia, and the comedians do capitally. The company, by special invitation, on Friday (3rd) were taken through the works of Messrs. Steel, Peech, and Tozer, one of the largest steel manufacturers in Great Britain.

Miss Dolly Harmer writes:—"I think this is one of the funniest things that could happen on the stage:—A travelling company playing 'Mazeppa' in a small town in Lancashire could not get the loan of a charger for the play. At last, after a deal of bother, they persuaded a man who was selling coals to lend his docile horse, and at night, when Mazeppa was strapped to his back, and the lines were given, 'See how the Arab steed urges on its wild career,' there wasn't a movement from the animal. They called, coaxed, and pushed him, but to no purpose. By this time the audience were yelling with delight. At last, in sheer desperation, the stage-manager sent for the owner, who in a deep, sepulchral voice called 'Coals, coals!' and the patient quadruped, who entirely lacked dramatic instinct, slowly and solemnly marched off amidst jeers and yells."

FEDERATION AND FUNDS.

M.H.A.R.A.

The usual weekly meeting of the committee was held on Wednesday, the following being present: Lieut. Albini (in the chair), Fred. W. Millis, Harold Finden, T. C. Callaghan, E. H. Lucas, Harry Falls, and C. Douglas Stuart. A new agency was appointed at the Shakespeare Hotel, Wigan. The weekly financial statement showed 57 new members, and a cash total of £65 8s. 6d.

Music Hall Ladies' Guild.

Miss Melinda May (secretary), on behalf of the above committee, begs to thank the following:—Mr. Percy B. Broadhead (per Mr. W. H. Clemart), donation, £12 10s. The following sums were collected by Miss Lottie Albert in three days:—Mrs. Farley, £1 1s.; Mrs. Rosie Levy, £1; Miss Rosaline Osborne, 2s.; Mrs. Miller, 5s.; Miss Bella Braham, 1s.; Mrs. Alkin, 1s.; Mr. Turner, 1s.; Mrs. F. V. St. Clair (collection), 5s.; Mr. Tilling ("Bodega," Bedford-street), box collection, 17s. 10½d. (per Miss Violet Folland); Miss Folland (donation), 6s. 6d.; Mr. Folland (collecting), £1 3s.; Miss Muriel Gordon (per Mrs. Vernon Cowper), collection, 4s.; Mrs. Georgie Courtney (collection), 2s. 6d.; and Miss Nellie Archer (collection), 2s. 6d. Miss Okey Matron (Brinsworth), six pairs of children's new socks; Mrs. Vernon Cowper, wool jacket; Miss Mona Garrick, boots and clothing. Miss Claire Romaine has been elected a committee member.

Music Hall Home.

The committee beg to thank Mr. W. H. Clemart for the allotment of £12 10s. to the Music Hall Home out of the fifty pounds received by him from Mr. William Henry Broadhead for distribution amongst the music hall charities, and also to thank Mr. Broadhead for his generous donation. The Secretary acknowledges receipt of the following box collections:—Mrs. Fruin, 16s.; Mrs. O'Brien (Rule's), 8s. 4d.; Mrs. Lawson (Empire, Camberwell), 4s. 9d.; Mr. Evans (Hermit's Cave), 1s. 10d.; Mr. Hewlings (Athenæum), 2s.; Mr. F. Kohler (Joiners' Arms), 1s.; also donation from Mr. Leoni Clarke of one guinea. The matron thanks Mr. George Gulliver for suit of clothes duly received.

Miss Kitty Colyer's New Year's Shilling Collecting Card Fund has started most auspiciously, over one thousand shillings being subscribed during the first week. The next committee meeting will be held on Friday, Jan. 17, at the Three Stags, 69, Kennington-road, S.E., at 3.30 p.m.

At the Hippodrome, Great Yarmouth, this week, the programme included Lady Little (the Doll Lady), Jim E. Power, the Tissots, Jimmy Shields, and Fitzallen.

The Oriental drama, "Secrets of the ——," will be staged at the New Middlesex next week. The variety section will include Chanti, the "modern proteus," in a series of transformation dances; Little Ganty, comedian; and Mlle. Marjutti, in an original creation, "From Demon to Fairyland."

That popular comedienne, Miss Dolly Harmer, has made another hit in pantomime. She is playing one of the Sisters in "Cinderella" at the Gaiety, Dublin, where she is received with enthusiasm at each performance, her songs being redemanded. After pantomime she will appear at the Theatre Royal in the same town.

Mr. Norman V. Norman and Miss Beatrice Wilson will shortly be seen at two of the principal London halls in F. B. Wingate's dramatic episode, "The Open Question," which has already been produced at the Oxford and the Holborn Empire with great success.

The Swansea Town Council invite tenders for the season 1913 for the right to provide open-air entertainments on the foreshore. Persons tendering must do so on the conditions laid down by the Council, copies of which conditions may be obtained from the Superintendent's office, Victoria Park, Swansea. Tenders, marked "Entertainments," to be forwarded not later than Monday, Feb. 3, to H. Lang Coath, town clerk, Guildhall, Swansea.

The Princess D'Aryaba, after a most successful Continental tour, is again in London, this time at the London Pavilion, where she is presenting this week a dance phantasy of considerable charm, entitled "La Sylphe." The princess brings with her this time La Zafra, a juvenile toe-dancer, who is making a hit in her solos.

From Glasgow comes the news that that clever young comedian, Johnny Coyle (son of the late John E. Coyle), has just signed a contract with Mr. Fred Kitchen, whose company he joins early in February. Johnny has been making a name for himself for some years past with Mr. Wilton Heriot's company in various sketches, the latest and most successful being "Artful Alfred," in which young Coyle had an excellent part as a boy scout. The elder Coyle did not quite reach the altitude of a star, but he was an excellent comedian nevertheless.

Carmo (the master phantasist), Miss Violet Melrose, Mr. Fritz Kling, and Miss Mona Garrick have been providing the entertainment at the Gem, Great Yarmouth, during the week.

An entertainment is to be given at the Surrey Masonic Hall on Thursday next for the benefit of Motorman H. O. Baker, of the L.C.C. Tramways, who met with a serious accident which incapacitated him for over six months. Many well-known artistes have consented to appear on this occasion, and Mr. B. Woodger, of the Camberwell Empire, and Mr. [illegible]ck Green, will look after the stage.

At the Shoreditch County Court, on Thursday, his Honour Judge Cluer heard an action in which Joseph Mordecai, of 195, Lower Clapton-road, advertising contractor, sought to recover £100 from the Empire, Mile End, Ltd., the offices of which are at 140, Fenchurch-street, E.C., for breach of contract. There was a counter-claim by the defendants for £139 14s., half-share of the amount received under the contract. Mr. B. Eames appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Rankin for the defendants.

After a lengthy legal argument, his Honour said that so far as the main part of the damages was concerned, he came reluctantly to a conclusion in favour of the plaintiff. The defendants had only their managing-director to blame for the foolish letter of Nov. 13, in which he repudiated the contract altogether. If the shareholders could get the money out of him it would serve him right. He (Judge Cluer) had at first been of opinion that the defendants had succeeded so far as the curtain was concerned, but the defendants had made it impossible for the plaintiff to recover from his customers, and he was entitled to recover £75 on account of the curtain and £24 on the programmes. There would therefore be judgment in his favour for £99 and costs.

ACTS, ARTISTES, AND AGENTS.

Mr. Rufe Naylor despatched Palo and Sellery and Chas. Erard by the R.M.S. Briton on Saturday last for Africa's Amalgamated Theatres, and this week Ray and Calder and the Seymons will leave for the same popular tour.

A special cable received by Mr. Rufe Naylor from the Orpheum manager, Johannesburg, states that the Mothe Concert Party and Mark Anton made great successes on their opening last Thursday night. Mark Anton will produce his new protean sketch, "Caught Red-Handed," at the Johannesburg Orpheum about the end of February.

During his week in Scotland Mr. Rufe Naylor booked six acts for Africa's Amalgamated Theatres tour.

Reports from Africa state that the theatres of the "Amalgamated" Circuit have been doing enormous business lately, this being accounted for by the very suitable acts despatched by Mr. Naylor, who, of course, should know what African audiences appreciate.

Auguste Van Biene will sail for Africa on March 22 to play on Africa's Amalgamated Theatres circuit.

The new musical sketch, "La Maison Decolletée," which, as announced in the "Wednesday Era," is to be produced on Monday at the London Pavilion, is being booked by Mr. Isenthal, of the Ben Nathan offices. Mr. Isenthal has been associated with several of the more successful one-act musical comedies recently produced at the Pav.

Messrs. Ashton and Mitchell's Royal Agency have arranged for Mr. Cooper Mitchell, the well-known entertainer, to make his début on the variety stage in the near future. Importations of this character, from the concert platform, have, in many instances, proved exceptionally agreeable, and we hope that Mr. Mitchell will prove as successful as many of his contemporary entertainers who have taken to vaudeville of late years.

Foster's Agency, Limited, have appointed Mr. D. L. Lapin (late of Braff's Agency, Limited) to be their continental representative. He will start on a long tour of Europe at the end of January.

Conrad and Whidden, who opened sensationally at the Alhambra, Glasgow, on Monday, will be seen in town next week at the Empire, Leicester-square, where they have been booked indefinitely through Mr. Will Collins.

Amongst the excellent items at the Camberwell Empire this week are Fergus Leslie and Co., who are presenting a very attractive and interesting sketch entitled, "The Truth About the Lie," booked under the enterprising agency of Mr. David Hart.

Mr. E. Story-Gofton writes to state that he was the sole producer and stage-manager of "Sinbad" at the Willesden Hippodrome.

Walter Hastings, a well-known song writer in the seventies and eighties, and the author of "Song of the Thrush," sung by Miss Jenny Hill, "Brown—upside down," &c., is now an inmate of St. Anne's Home, Streatham, and nearly blind. The old fellow would welcome letters from old clients or present-day song writers.

Dr. Bodie and his talented company opened their second week at the spacious Kinnaird Hall, Dundee, on Monday before a packed and delighted house. Dr. Bodie this week introduces his weird experiment entitled "The Cage of Death," which creates quite a sensation. Albert Edward Bodie, who presents a really good turn as a society illusionist, worthily upholds his title of "the Wizard of the North."

On New Year's Day Miss Mabel Thornton was unable, through indisposition, to take her place as Sinbad in the pantomime of "Sinbad the Sailor" at the Theatre Royal, Edinburgh. The rôle was filled at a moment's notice by Miss Tatty Leonard, who played out the week with great success. Miss Tatty possesses much of the artistic talent of her better-known sister, Miss Crissie Leonard, who is principal boy at Wimbledon Theatre.

H.R.H. Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein and H.R.H. Princess Henry of Battenberg have graciously granted their patronage to the matinée which is to be given at the Victoria Palace (by kind permission of Mr. Alfred Butt) on behalf of "Our Dumb Friends' League" Horse Ambulance Fund, on Thursday, Jan. 30.

Mr. Kilgour's programme at the Newcastle Empire this week consists of Mike S. Whalen, the comet with many tales; the Marvellous Astis, lady acrobats; Mr. and Mrs. Manning, in "Our Wedding Anniversary"; Donal McDougal, the lively Scot; Mlle. Regia, lady musician; Les Marbas, acrobatic dancers, in "The New Number"; the Four Rays, dancers, introducing an original rag-time toe dance; Trixie Marris, comedienne; and "The Lodgers," a Scottish character sketch by Macdonald and Young's company, including Miss Jean Turnbull, Nancy Blackwood, Willie Black, and Lallah Forsyth.

Miss Lily Purvis (of Purvis and Partner), who has recently lost her husband, Walter Purvis, is playing Sir Britannia, and understudying Miss Maud Mortimer at the Britannia Theatre, Hoxton, where "Beauty and the Beast" is being played twice daily to record business.

Miss Anna Eva Fay, the celebrated American mystic, is to open up a short season next week at the Coliseum, where she will give a series of interesting demonstrations of her remarkable occult powers. A rapid fire of questions relating to business, to love affairs, to domestic worries, to contemplated changes in position or residence, and to numerous other things of personal interest is but one of the many features of Miss Fay's performance. The questions, it should be noted, are not given verbally, but are written on slips of paper provided by the audience themselves, and hidden in their pockets. Miss Fay, whilst blindfolded on the stage, not only reads the concealed questions and answers them, but calls out the names of their propounders and locates their exact position in the auditorium. A cabinet séance, exhibitions of hypnotism, suspension and artistic posing are other features of the performance.

THE STOLL SUBURBAN HOUSES.—Zona Vevey, Cornalia and Eddie, and Fred Russell are the newcomers to Hackney Empire next week, whilst for Shepherd's Bush the principals will be Gertie Gitana, Ike and Will Scott, Joseph Adelmann Family of Instrumentalists, "Detective Keen," and the Harmony Four. For Chiswick Empire next week George Gray and company, in the new sketch, "The People's King," and Marie Novello will be the outstanding engagements, and at Wood Green Empire "Wild Australia" and Maskelyne and Devant's mystery, "The Window of the Haunted House" will be seen.

SONGS, WRITERS, AND SINGERS.

Great victories, as a rule, bring boons in their train to many not on the immediate scene of the triumphs achieved; and the latest attestation of this truth is furnished in connection with the unprecedented triumph of the Feldman firm in the matter of the rag-time craze. Millions of the public have found hearty and healthy amusement in the syncopated melodies of Feldman, which have been featured by quite a host of accomplished music hall artistes. Then theatre-managers are reaping a rich harvest from the crowds that throng to revel for a space in the seductions of syncopation; the artistes who present the genuine goods to the public are gaining fame and fortune by the enterprise; and while hundreds of printers are working overtime in order to turn out the thousands of copies of songs that the public are clamouring for. All this has been the result of a campaign engineered less than twelve months ago by Mr. Bert Feldman, whose efforts have eventuated in an unprecedented triumph.

All the principal West End theatres with variety programmes are now redolent of rag-time, the Hippodrome, the Palace, the Palladium, the Oxford; and, the greatest of all, the Coliseum, has caught the infection, no less than two stars of the dramatic side of the question—Mr. Seymour Hicks and Miss Ellaline Terriss—introducing that rag-time masterpiece, "Alexander's rag-time band," in their funny sketch, "Pebbles on the Beach."

But the surest sign of all of the conquering grip of syncopation on the public is to be found in the extraordinary demand for rag-time records in the music libraries. In one of these institutions recently a subscriber had to wait for many weeks before securing a copy of a popular ditty, so great was the demand, notwithstanding that dozens of copies of this particular song were in circulation at the time by the same library.

London's West End principal boy, Miss Daisy James, is justly holding the stage at the historical Lyceum, and no sprightlier and more versatile principal boy could have been found to fill this role. Like the majority of her brother and sister artistes, Miss James is relying upon Feldman's songs exclusively to carry her to public approval, and to hear her sing either "Who were you with last night?" "The mysterious rag," or "I want to be in Dixie" is not only a musical treat but an artistic contribution of great merit. Hundreds of the audience joining in singing Miss James's chorus is a scream, and ere many days elapse we fancy that Miss James's songs will be ringing through London like a whirlwind. Another lady worthy of special mention at the Lyceum is Ida Barr, whose sensational success with "Oh! you beautiful doll" is one of the features of a pantomime teeming with Feldman's furores.

A short time ago Mr. Feldman predicted that the "star" song featured by Mr. Mark Sheridan, "Who were you with last night?" would be the year's winner, and this prophecy seems on the point of realisation, for we find that a plebiscite of "Star" readers has resulted in placing this ditty at the head of the musical poll. Still another triumph for Feldman as a seer.

Writing from Edinburgh, Miss Nancy Thornton recounts her continued success in pantomime, and says that her songs, "Alexander's rag-time band," "The girl in Havana," and "Love bees"—all Feldman publications—are going tremendously, and so much faith has Miss Thornton in the Arthur-street firm that she is producing yet another of their songs during the next few days. This will make nine songs from the house of Feldman in Mr. Wyndham's Edinburgh pantomime, which is quite a record in its way.

Miss Dorothy Ward, who is in the Liverpool Court Theatre pantomime, writes anent her triumphant success with "Alexander's rag-time band," adding that she is taking three encores every performance, and that the song is the greatest sensation she has ever been associated with. Miss Ward and her husband (Mr. Shaun Glenville) are creating a furore with "Oh, you beautiful doll," another of Feldman's epoch-making publications. In the same panto Miss Topsy Sinden is carrying all before her with "That mysterious rag," and the Tillers' Girls are making a tremendous hit with "I want to be in Dixie."

From the Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool, comes the glad tidings of Miss Annie Heenan's prodigious success with the artistic ballad of the year, "Take me back to the garden of love," her rendition of the song being eulogised by the Press and applauded by the public. Miss Lily Morris, in the same production, brings down the house in the fine Feldman ditty of "I want to be in Dixie," and the rendering of this song has emphasised, if that were at all possible, the undoubted claim of Miss Morris to be considered a theatrical star of the first magnitude.

"Take me back to the garden of love" is also featured most effectively this week in the London Coliseum by the principal lady member of the Les Brocades troupe.

Barbara Babington is loyally representing Feldman in Ireland, and the music-loving Emerald Islanders have gone crazy over this talented artiste and her songs, "Take me back to the garden of love," "There's a girl in Havana," and "That mysterious rag." Ireland, according to history, has been invaded several times, but the latest invasion of the isle of saints and scholars—that of Feldman and his rag-time music—will prove to be one of the most beneficial in the chequered annals of the distressful country."

Having recovered from a slight attack of laryngitis, Miss Irene Dillon is again delighting her many admirers at the Prince of Wales's, Birmingham, where she has won all hearts with her delightful singing and dancing. This is Miss Irene Dillon's first pantomime engagement in England, though she has starred in Australia and America, and the day cannot be far distant when the West End will claim her as its own. Miss Dillon is singing Feldman's songs, and whether it is the "The rag-time violin," "That mysterious rag," or "I want to be in Dixie," her success is of the most undoubted kind, and encore again and again is her reward.

It is interesting to record how universal is the success of Feldman's songs. Go where you will you hear them, and within a stone's throw of one another we have "That mysterious rag" at three of London's most important places of amusement, namely, at Drury Lane, at the Coliseum (sung by Miss Ellaline Terriss), and referred to in a previous paragraph; and at the Lyceum (sung by Miss Daisy James; in fact, in the words of Feldman's famous song, "Everybody's doing it now," and good judges, too, for it cannot fail.

There is a tremendous rush of business at the offices of Feldman. Such huge successes as "Alexander's rag-time band," "Take me back to the garden of love," "I want to be in Dixie," "Rag-time violin," "Oh, you beautiful doll, "Mysterious rag," "Everybody's doing it," "There's a girl in Havana," "Who were you with last night?" "It's a long way to Tipperary," and many other undisputed hits to be controlled by one firm of publishers is indeed a splendid record, and a record unequalled by any other firm. It is a complete triumph for the wonderful organisation possessed by B. Feldman and Co., who are already at work on a big batch of new songs for this year, although they might well be expected to rest awhile after their undisputed victory.

That dainty comedienne, Miss Eva Le Claire, is scoring heavily with "Rum-tum-tiddle" and "Won't you waltz this waltz with me?" at the Empire, Dublin. Miss Eva Le Claire is an artiste who is rapidly coming to the front rank, and the distinctive manner in which she sings her songs always brings her a hearty measure of applause.

Harry Russell's "Cinderella" production at the Grand Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne, with Miss Madge Allan as "boy" and Miss Lilian Eirol as "girl" is attracting huge houses every night, and with several Feldman songs being encored nightly is undoubtedly in for a long run. Miss Allan meets with a big reception in her songs, "Who were you with last night?" and "It's a long way to Tipperary," besides "Oh, you beautiful doll" and "Rag-time violin," whilst there are several other Feldman songs which are much in evidence.

In Mr. Arthur Carlton's Christmas production at the Bordesley Palace, Birmingham, Miss Edith Courtney is creating an absolute furore as the Prince with Feldman songs, viz., "Alexander's rag-time band," "Garden of love," and "I want to be in Dixie." Whilst describing "Garden of love" as the artistic hit of the show, the local paper asserts that "Alexander's rag-time band" is an electrical hit, and the song is undoubtedly in capable hands when sung with Miss Courtney's inimitable dash and style.

Miss Dorothy Royal at the Theatre Royal, Nottingham, creates a palpable sensation every night with her spirited rendering of "I'm going back to Dixie" and "Who were you with last night?" both songs being doubly encored at each performance.

At the New Theatre, Cardiff, Miss Dorothy Craske is winning golden opinions for her brilliant rendition of "Alexander's rag-time band," which is being sung and whistled all over Cardiff, and also for her delightfully artistic rendition of "Garden of love," which Miss Craske has made the outstanding hit of the show.

Mr. Lupino Lane is scoring a tremendous hit at the Theatre Royal, Manchester, with Feldman's famous rag-time number, "The Gaby glide," which he is singing in the pantomime production there.

At the Gaiety, Ayr, Miss Rita Moya is making the canny Scot use his voice well, for Miss Moya has simply got them crazy about "I want to be in Dixie," and five encores a night are the rule. If they can't see a joke they certainly know a good song, says Miss Moya. We agree with her.

A striking success is being made by Miss Alice Wyatt at Bradford, where this charming lady is singing "Alexander's rag-time band" and "There's a girl in Havana" to delighted audiences at every performance. "Alexander's rag-time band" is itself a riot, which we can readily believe from the enormous numbers of copies required to satiate the Yorkshire people's taste for rag-time.

In Mr. J. F. Elliston's pantomime at the Theatre Royal, Rochdale, Miss Nancy Benyon is giving every prominence to three Feldman songs, viz., "Take me back to the garden of love," "I want to be in Dixie," and "Who were you with last night?" which are veritable furores. Miss Benyon's splendid voice and rare vocal powers are appreciated to such an extent that it is seldom she is allowed to leave the stage with less than three encores, and usually more.

An act quite new to this country in style and originality opened on Monday at the Alhambra, Glasgow, in the persons of Conrad and Wydden, from the other side. These two boys are expert musicians, and are masters in execution and technique, one playing the piano and the other the violin in a manner worth going some distance to hear. They are featuring exclusively all Feldman's publications, and it is safe to predict that they are over on this side to play for a lengthy period.

Miss Lily Vine is making a big hit in the panto. production at the Kennington Theatre with two Feldman songs, viz., "I want to be in Dixie" and "In the days of the crinoline." She is the recipient of several encores a night with these two numbers, "Dixie" in particular, and her irresistible manner is quite one of the outstanding features of the production.

Miss May Erne and Ernie Chester have a prominent place in the above production, and they are featuring with electrical success Feldman's "Mysterious rag" with every sign of complete approval from a huge audience. This clever duo have been consistently singing this song for some time, and much of its present popularity is due to their brilliant interpretation.

The success of "Take me back to the garden of love" is a live fact, and not a mere chimera. It is being sung throughout the kingdom wherever pantomime production holds sway, while the popular demand is tremendous. Prominent amongst the exponents of this charming ballad is Miss Cecily Haines, who plays the part of Fairy Queen in Mr. Carlton's panto., "Babes in the Wood," at the New Theatre Royal, King's Lynn, this week.

The inhabitants of Nottingham are happy in the possession of one of the best all-round pantos. in "Dick Whittington" at the Grand Theatre. The Sisters Cora are playing principal boy and girl, and contribute largely to the success of the production. They are both featuring Messrs. B. Feldman and Co.'s publications with significant results. Miss Lottie Cora as Dick sings charmingly, and is taking four encores nightly with "Alexander's rag-time band" and "Who were you with last night?"

At the Bordesley Palace, Birmingham, "Cinderella" continues its prosperous run. Particularly worthy of note is Mr. Bert Castle, who as Dandini is scoring an enormous success with Messrs. Feldman's "Fiddle-dee-dee," which has become the popular craze of the district.

The Hastings Corporation invite separate tenders for the provision of a band for the borough, and for the placing of a concert party on the Caroline-parade and in the Alexandra Park. Forms of tender can be obtained on application to Mr. Ben. F. Meadows, town clerk, Hastings.

"The Redskin," Mr. A. Hengler's spectacle, remains under engagement at the Newcastle Hippodrome this week. Jean and Josie, in speciality act; Max Laube, whistler; Elida Morris, comedienne; Three Lyries, in sketch; the Moto-Girl, mysterious novelty; and a capital sketch, entitled "Potts Bros. and Co.," comprise the remaining attractions.

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THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST.

When you write and compose a ballad which on paper looks likely to become a landmark in the world's musical history, if properly exploited, the question of the best means of giving it the necessary exploitation is naturally the salient point in the minds of those responsible for the song's existence. That A. J. Mills and Bennett Scott, in their wonderfully successful song of the affections, "My heart is with you to-night," have scaled the dizzy heights of Success at a bound cannot be gainsaid by the most carping critic. But, to the artistes who first sang for them this transcendently popular number—to Miss Kitty Dale and Miss Belle Sylvia—they and the Star Co., of which they are important adjuncts, feel that their sincerest thanks are due. Were it a matter of thanking present-day singers of "My heart is with you to-night" in theatres and music halls, to say nothing of picture palaces, many hundreds of names would have to be quoted in these columns. A glance at the Star Co.'s advertisement in this issue will give some slight idea of the number of popular pantomime favourites who are singing this song. To what is this extraordinary success due? Primarily, of course, to the intrinsic merit of the ballad which is undeniably a superlatively fine one. Secondly, to concentration on the part of the Star Co.'s "placing" staff. While others ran rag-time mad, the far-seeing "pluggers" of the High-street firm kept their heads, and, pinning their faith to the ballad of the heart which ever appeals, long after mere jingle ceases to do more than bore, steadily pressed the claims of "My heart is with you to-night" with everyone who *is* anyone in the pantomime world, the net result being that this is at the present time the one big paramount song-success of the season—events may prove of the century.

The Kennington pantomime now specially features no fewer than five of the Star Co.'s numbers. First and foremost, of course, must be cited the "wonder song" of the year, "My heart is with you to-night," most exquisitely rendered by Miss Ada Thomas, the principal girl, who never fails to win rapturous encores. Miss Thomas also joins Miss Nora Delaney, the principal boy, in the fascinating syncopated love duet, "I'd like to go on a honeymoon," another artistic triumph. Miss Delaney, solus, wins many plaudits for her spirited rendering of "Oh, that rag-time sea," and, surrounded by "kiddies," makes one of the biggest hits of a fine show with "Woolloomooloo." Early this week the great "swing"-song success, "Keep on swinging me, Charlie," was also introduced into this production, with most felicitous results.

The following is a letter sent to the Star Co. which is typical of scores which they daily receive respecting the same wonderful song:—"Theatre Royal, Exeter.—Dear Mr. Scott,—I am thinking of singing your 'My heart is with you to-night' in place of one of my other songs, and should be so glad if you will send me a copy with band-parts.—Yours truly, Lilian Sanders." Another significant epistle comes from Miss Dora Sawyer, who writes from the Grand Theatre, Brighton:—"Dear Mr. Scott,—Will you please send me band parts for 'My heart is with you to-night,' as I am putting it in next week? 'By-bye land' is making a big hit. Everyone says how sweet it is."

One of the most important artistes who is singing Mr. Whit Cunliffe's great song, "Mister Cupid," in pantomime just now, is dainty Miss Ella Retford. Bright, sparkling, and instinct with merriment, the Grand Theatre, Leeds, principal boy invests every racy verse (and there are many!) with a joyous humour that is infectious to a degree. Encores innumerable are her portion, and no greater hit has ever been made in any Leeds pantomime than that of Miss Ella Retford with this, the premier light comedy success of the year.

In the same pantomime that rapidly-rising young star, Miss Elise Malpass, one of the original singers of that enormously-popular "picture" song, "Little shepherdess of Devon" on the halls, wins the hearts of all auditors with her charming rendering of this melodious song of the country-side, which she renders in an original manner distinctly her own. Her accompanying dance, too, is a thing of joy to all beholders. The Leeds press have waxed most eloquent in commendations of this pretty singer and song.

That fine ripe comedian, Mr. Maitland Marler, who is playing Widow Twankey in Messrs. Day and Lauri's pantomime at the Bedford this week is making one of the greatest hits imaginable with Mr. Herbert Rule's original tongue-twisting number, "Woolloomooloo," which is a veritable sensation. Another vehicle for mirth far out of the common, which is also retailed by Mr. Marler, is the Star Co.'s other gigantic pantomime success, Mr. Mark Sheridan's "They all walk the wibbly-wobbly walk," which brings the house down at every performance.

The musical-director of the Grand, Leeds, Mr. Henri Jaxon, writing the Star Co., says:—"Your items are great successes. The ballad, 'My heart is with you,' 'Mr. Cupid,' 'Shepherdess of Devon,' and 'Wibbly-wobbly!'" Mr. W. Snell-Robinson, musical-director of the Theatre Royal, Sunderland, pantomime, writes:—"Miss Freda Danillo (principal boy) is successfully singing 'So we all went walking round.' (She is also studying 'Wibbly-wobbly walk.') In addition, she is, in conjunction with Miss Isa Gibson, singing 'I'd like to go on a honeymoon' as a duet and dance. Your big song, 'My heart is with you to-night,' is sung by Miss Jean King. Have you the parts of 'Woolloomooloo'? I want to introduce it for Sam Foy, 'Fitzwarren.'"

That fine comedian, Mr. Alfred Wellesley, has made one of the big outstanding hits of the Theatre Royal, Hanley, pantomime, "Sinbad the Sailor," with that ubiquitous chorus number, "Woolloomooloo," his comedy business in this Star song being indescribably funny. Mr. Wellesley is delighted with his find, and has written the Star Co. most appreciatively respecting the many merits of this number. This go-ahead music firm is to be congratulated on the quality and high status of its comedian exponents of this exceptional number.

Mr. Mark Sheridan's great comedy chorus song, "They all walk the wibbly-wobbly walk" is constantly winning fresh adherents. Mr. Albert le Fre, who is playing an important comedy part in the Theatre Royal, Manchester, pantomime, has just introduced this famous song into that production, needless to say, with the happiest results. A song so elastic in character that it is equally well adapted to the requirements of principal boys or low comedians, is somewhat of a rarity in pantomime, and when to be obtained is naturally snapped up with avidity, as in the case of this fine Star number.

Mr. Harold March, musical-director, writing from the Theatre Royal, Blackburn, says:—"Have great pleasure in informing you that 'My heart is with you to-night' has been a tremendous success. Other items of yours I am doing at present are 'Mister Cupid,' 'Wibbly-wobbly walk,' 'All through the wedding march,' 'The girls all dote on a military man.'" And not at all a bad list of one firm's songs, either!

"WOMANKIND" AT GLASGOW.

A Play in One Act, by Wilfrid Wilson Gibson, Produced for the First Time at the Alhambra, Glasgow, on Monday, Jan. 6, 1913.

Ezra Barrasford ..... Mr. Eliot Makeham
Eliza Barrasford ..... Miss Helen Boucher
Jim Barrasford ..... Mr. Patrick Curwen
Phœbe ..... Miss Muriel Reddall
Judith ..... Miss Elaine Sleddall

The scene of the piece, which is clever and convincing, takes place in the living room of a lonely cottage in Yorkshire. An old couple, Ezra, who is now blind, and his wife, Eliza, are waiting the return of their youngest son, Jim, who that day is bringing home his bride, Phœbe. The old mother foresees the end of her own reign in household affairs, even as forty years before she had displaced her mother-in-law. The old shepherd's only regret is that his son had not wed Judith, who was a lively wench, but considered flighty. In his maudlin mood, the old man has a sarcastic tongue, and while hitting off his wife's failings, gloats with satisfaction on what a gay dog he had been when he was young. The wife is glad that her son has got clear of the frivolous Judith, and hopes he has made a good match. She leads her old blind husband out to the door to sit in the sunshine, and a moment after the woebegone Judith enters carrying a baby. A few moments' talk, especially as the old woman has taken the child in her arms, raises the suspicion that the child is her son's, and the old father re-entering, mistakes the young woman for the new bride and welcomes her even if she brings a grandchild who has arrived a "bit too soon." The wife is anxious for Judith to leave before the married couple arrive, but is prevented by their sudden appearance. Phœbe instinctively guesses the whole situation, and demands to know the father of the baby. Judith denies that the child is Jim's; after some hesitation Jim also denies it, but Phœbe's woman's instinct is not to be deceived; she is convinced of the real truth, and repudiating her newly-married husband's protest, she leaves the house, inviting Judith to come home with her and share her humble lot. This Judith does, leaving the old father, mother, and son alone together. The latter bitterly exclaims, "I've done wi' women; they're a faithless lot!"—a sentiment which his old father endorses, and the mother exclaims: "We are, indeed, a faithless lot!" on which meaningful retort the curtain falls.

The acting by the Scottish Repertory Theatre Co. was worthy of the play. Mr. Eliot Makeham gave an excellent and finished portrait of the old shepherd, whose desire for a grandchild overrules any minor details regarding its birth. Miss Elaine Sleddall as the sorely-tried Judith acted with pathos and the necessary infusion of bitterness. Miss Helen Boucher made an artistically subdued figure as the old mother, and her son Jim was acted with good effect by Mr. Patrick Curwen. Miss Muriel Reddall as the young wife whose wedding day terminates so sadly was also well placed. The play was produced by Mr. Franklin Dyall, and at the conclusion all the principals were recalled several times. The author, who well deserved a call, was evidently forgotten by the audience in their appreciation of the play and the players.

Mr. Charles Gulliver has been able to extend the engagement of Mr. H. G. Pélissier and the Follies, who will present one of their sketches at the Palladium next week.

"PEARLS" AT THE COLISEUM.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bourchier's return to the Coliseum synchronises with the production of a new piece by Mr. Stanley Houghton, the young playwright, who has established his right to be placed in the list of dramatists that count, by his production, "Hindle Wakes," and "The Younger Generation." "Pearls," as the new piece is called, tells the story of a crisis in the lives of Richard and Hester. Soon after the rise of the curtain she returns from the opera, Covent Garden, and going to a bureau hides and locks within it a string of valuable pearls, which she hastily scrutinises by the light of the electric lamp.

When Dick returns from the club, where he has lost much money in gambling, he tells Hester that the sensation of the evening is the loss of Lady Bingham's pearls. It has been reported at the club that they have been stolen, and that the thief was a woman. Hester is distrait, agitated, and Dick suggests a strong soda and brandy to steady her nerves. He takes his supper of "brains," and then looks for his cigars. They are in the bureau with the pearls. The guilty Hester tries to put him off his after-supper smoke, but he insists, and forcing the lock, he discovers the pearls. There is a moment of intense silence, and then, in a hoarse whisper, he exclaims, "You!" Hester confesses. There is only one way out, and that is to immediately return the pearls to their rightful owner. Just as Dick is about to depart a loud knocking disturbs and distresses them both. It is the police. The constable is let in. Man and wife are in a state of tense anxiety, to be lifted immediately the officer apologises for disturbing them, but the window downstairs is open! The curtain falls as Hester relieves her overcharged feelings by bursting into tears. Dick will go to Lady Bingham's, return the treasured pearls, and explain that they accidentally became unfastened, and in their detachment attached themselves to the appliqué work of Hester's opera cloak. Of course, this explanation will not prevent Lady Bingham having her "ain think." The little piece is cleverly written, as one would naturally expect from an author of such gifts; and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Bourchier handle the situations in masterly fashion. On Monday night the house was held in silence by the dramatic scene wherein the husband discovers the incriminating pearls—a great tribute, indeed, to the fine acting—and not until the end did the loud and prolonged applause accentuate the success of the new sketch. Mr. and Mrs. Bourchier had the heartiest of receptions.

Artistes should note that the Palace Theatre, West Hartlepool, has ceased to be in the possession of Black Brothers, and Mr. George Black informs the profession that all contracts are cancelled from Monday, Jan. 27, 1913 (inclusive).

Mr. Leonard Gautier, Mr. J. Bannister Howard's popular musical-director, has written the Star Co. as follows respecting their principal song:—"'My heart is with you to-night' is being sung at the Dalston Theatre by Miss Amy Maple, at the Crystal Palace by Miss Molly Wynne, and at the Hippodrome, Croydon, by Miss Dorothy Clarke." That experienced entertainer and pantomime proprietor, Mr. Fred Clements, writing from the Theatre Royal, Stockport, says:—"I am pleased to tell you that Miss Mabel Hind has made an enormous success with 'My heart is with you to-night.' It has never missed an encore, and on some occasions a double encore, and without a doubt it is the best number of its kind this year."

"THE LITTLE STOWAWAY" AT ISLINGTON.

A good deal of water has flowed under London Bridge since Jenny Hill first thrilled the metropolis as "The Little Stowaway." Islington Empire patrons have an opportunity of either renewing or making their acquaintance this week with the famous old sketch. Certainly it can be said right away that the original production never had a finer stage setting than the one which Miss Ethel Arden and Geo. Abel have given to this present revival. The second scene is a particularly engrossing picture of a modern ocean liner, the realism being heightened by a clever panoramic effect depicting the vessel leaving the dock and passing down the river to the open sea, the motion of the water being capitally represented by the rolling ship.

The sketch has been modernised by Geo. Abel and Harry J. Robinson, but all the essential details are preserved. A large stage crowd of sailors and Algerians are utilised, the effective costumes being by Angels and Benjamins. A special word is due to Mr. T. Gray, the musical-director of this hall, who is responsible for the incidental music. It is an important factor in the general success, and his fine orchestra accorded it entire justice.

There are several character studies of great merit in the production. Mr. Wm. H. Brougham, who plays Captain Avondale, submits a particularly sound performance. The rôle has many grateful moments, and in these Mr. Brougham completely won the goodwill of the audience. Mr. Geo. Abel himself plays the unpleasant part of Lieutenant Burton, and he very speedily earns the entire detestation of his auditors. His acting throughout was essentially forcible and convincing. Mr. Edmund Lea as the Bo'sun was very satisfactory, and rendered a song acceptably. Master Arthur Braby as the middy enacted a small part efficiently, his song, "Say au revoir," winning plenty of applause. Miss Josephine Lee had very little to do as Mrs. Moore, but was very sympathetic and gracious. Naturally, the performance of the title-rôle is the one that excites the greatest interest. Let it be said at once that Miss Nellie Morris came most successfully through the ordeal. Within a short space of time the whole gamut of human emotion is expressed, but in every varying phase of the character, despairing, hopeful, and self-reliant, her grasp of the part was very complete, and her success very emphatic. The final tableaux, depicting the seaman's salute to the dead youngster, with the melancholy strains of the "Last Post," echoing from the bugle, very greatly moved the audience, and the general enthusiasm found vent in innumerable curtains. There is no doubt that "The Little Stowaway" has taken a new and prosperous lease of life.

Apropos of the Theatre Royal, Hanley, Mr. Claud Yearsley, the musical-director, states:—"The following are Star songs we are using: 'My heart is with you to-night,' sung by Miss Ellaline Thorne; 'I'd like to go on a honeymoon,' sung by Miss Norah Neville; 'Woolloomooloo' (a big chorus number, sung by Mr. Arthur Wellesley; 'Mister Cupid,' sung by Miss Ellaline Thorne; 'Patricia,' sung by Miss Norah Neville; 'Paree,' sung by Miss Kirk Vincent; 'Wibbly-wobbly walk' and 'We all went marching round,' concerted. (Also in overture.) 'All through the wedding march' and 'Shepherdess of Devon.' Next week 'Marsinah' will be danced by Miss Marjorie Neville in the Oriental scene.

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MABEL MEDROW, Grand, Glasgow.
KITTY DALE, Princess's, Glasgow.
MAUD ESMOND, King's, Edinburgh.
OUIDA MACDERMOTT, King's, Sunderland.
BEATRICE GUIVER, Tyne, Newcastle-on-Tyne.
NELLIE WIGLEY, Royal, Birmingham.
VIOLET LLOYD, Opera House, Belfast.
EDNA MORGAN, Royal, Nottingham.
ETHEL NEGRETTI, Empire, Sheffield.
DORMA MORGAN, Opera House, Leicester.
HEBE BLISS, Grand, Leeds.
IRENE ARMITAGE, Royal, Portsmouth.
ROSIE FITZGERALD, King's, Dover.
ETHEL BRAILSFORD, Rotunda, Liverpool.
SYLVIA ROSSLYN, Royal, Worthing.
HETTIE ZILLWOOD, Hippodrome, Southend.
MABEL OSBORNE, Hippodrome, Sheffield.
LILY EDWARDS, Hippodrome, Liverpool.
DOROTHY VEITCH, Royal, Dewsbury.
ADA BELLFIELD, Court, Wigan.
BELLA FREDERICKS, Theatre, Great Malvern.
KITTY DOUGLAS, Royalty, Chester.
DAISY WEST COLLINS, Royal, Plymouth.
MINNIE MYRLE, Prince's, Bradford.
VICTORIA CARMEN, Empire, South Shields.
ADA PRESCOTT, Hippodrome, Birkenhead.
ALICE DIGBY, Royal, Bristol.
ELLALINE THORNE, Royal, Hanley.
MARIE LUMBERG, Lyceum, Newport.
KATIE JAMES, Pavilion, Oswestry.
CECIL RUSSELL, Alexandra, Sheffield.
VIOLA HAMILTON, Opera House, Southport.
CECILY HAINES, Royal, King's Lynn.
JEAN KING, Royal, Sunderland.
GRACE WINIFRED DALTON, Prince's, Bristol.
MARIE BEAUFORT, Grand, Doncaster.
HILDA CLAREMONT, Royal, Barnsley.
KITTY UPTON, Hippodrome, Liverpool.
GERTIE LENO, Palace, Manchester.
OLGA DU BARRY, Royal, Leeds.
EDNA LATONNE, Hippodrome, Leeds.
KATIE EVANS, Palace, Gloucester.
LILIAN SANDERS, Royal, Exeter.
JEWEL ST. LEGER, Prince's.
MAY THOMAS, Kennington Theatre.
MARIE REEVE, Brixton Theatre.
MAY BEATTY, King's, Hammersmith.
ETHEL BEECH, Euston Palace.
EVA KELLAND, Shakespeare, Clapham.
MARJORIE MANNERS, Broadway, New Cross.
TWO LE ROYS, Borough, Stratford.
NAN TAYLOR, Palace, Tottenham.
DORA CHRISTIAN, Empire, Stratford.
ETHEL HALL, Lyric, Hammersmith.
MABEL MANNERING, New Theatre, Wimbledon.
EVA SOUTA, Britannia, Hoxton.
AMY MAPLE, Dalston Theatre.
JULIA WILLIS, Elephant and Castle.
AGNES BOND, Metropolitan.
GWENNIE VAUGHAN, Grand, Fulham.
ANNA HANA, Hippodrome, Lewisham.
MOLLY WYNNE, Crystal Palace.
DOROTHY CLARKE, Hippodrome, Croydon.
MONICA ELLESTREE, Alexandra, Birmingham.
OLIVE PLANT, King's, Dundee.
MADGE BERESFORD, Metropole, Gateshead.
EMMA ELGIN, Regent, Salford.
NANCY LANGTYRE, Royal, Brighton.
CISSIE THOMPSON, Royal, Exeter.
OLLIE DENNIE, Opera House, Southport.
KATRINA MARCHE, Opera House, Dudley.
LILY ENNIS, Royal, Stockport.
ROBERTA WILLIAMS, Royal, Cardiff.
LIZZIE PRIMMER, Royal, Guildford.
LALLAH DAVIES, Hippodrome, Stoke-on-Trent.
MAY POULTON, Theatre Royal, Chesterfield.
EDITH WOLFE, Theatre Royal, Rochdale.
MARION FERN, Metropole, Openshaw.

IMPORTANT.—Will Pantomime Artistes who are singing "My Heart is with you to-night" whose names are not included in foregoing list kindly communicate?

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VARIETIES AT THE PALLADIUM.

The distinction of a run of 268 consecutive performances at the Haymarket is enjoyed by Mr. Wilfred Coleby's comedietta, "Their Point of View," which was put on at the Palladium on Monday. It is sheer satire, and that its humour did not prove too subtle for a variety audience was evidenced by frequent laughter. The chief exponent of the piece, it will be remembered, is a preposterous person, named Mrs. Bartlett, whose son, Albert, has been so well provided for at the Industrial Home at Beechcroft, that she is anxious for her younger boy to follow in his footsteps. The Home, however, is restricted to boys who have been convicted of some crime, and the younger Bartlett is of so "God-fearing" a character that he cannot be induced to commit any misdemeanour. Finally, however, he yields to his mother's persuasions, and steals a sum of £50, which Mrs. Bartlett had put by to lend the older boy in order to start him in business, leaving a note to the effect that he is now on his way to Canada. The mother finds satisfaction in the fact that the money is bad, and that the boy will be arrested before he leaves England for attempting to pass false coin, and will thus gain entrance into the Home. A capital low comedy study is given by Miss Beryl Mercer as the gin-drinking Mrs. Bartlett, who suffers from "emerics," and is tolerant of crime in all its phases; but she would be well advised, in an auditorium like the Palladium, to speak louder. Mr. Cecil Bevan gives a clever conception—not a caricature—of a broad-minded clergyman of wide sympathies; and Mr. Arthur Cleave does well as Albert.

A feast of variety is furnished by the remainder of the Palladium programme, a pillar of which is Little Tich. His quaint individuality is as powerful as ever in the promotion of mirth, and incessant laughter accompanies his droll songs and sayings as the "Steeplejack" and the "Waiter." As the odd individual who indulges in "Curiosity," Little Tich continues his mirthful progress. A powerful attraction is furnished by the Follies, who give a taste of their quality in the songs and dances of the first part, including a satire of ragtime, with Pélissier and Lewis Sydney at the piano, and Miss Fay Compton singing and dancing one of the newest steps with another pierrot. The burlesque of Swiss yodelling and German opera is also greatly diverting.

A musical comedy star is seen in Miss Evie Greene, who was heartily recalled for the artistic taste and vocal skill displayed in her singing of "I hear you calling," and responded with an equally effective rendering of "The rosary." Joe Boganny's Lunatic Bakers furnish an hilarious ten minutes with their astonishing acrobatism and tumbling, a thrilling finale being provided in the marvellous backward fall from a pyramid of tables.

"The Ideal of Ideals" is the description applied to Miss Ella Shields, and certainly she looks quite the perfection of a gilded youth in her song, "We all went in together." She also dons the uniform of a soldier to sing "I shan't go back to Aldershot," a composition with a sly humour of which Miss Shields makes the most. Jack and Evelyn keep the house constantly on the laugh with their comedy business, presented in the brightest fashion; Just and Gabrielle give a most interesting exhibition of dancing of all kinds, including "tangles," "trots," and national ball-room dances; and also figuring in the programme are Ando's Happy Little Japs; T. E. Dunville, the elongated lump of comedy; Hurl and Ford, comedians and dancers; and Haley's Juveniles, in their popular vocal and dancing scena.

HARRY HALL'S HOUSE DINNER.

The fourth annual house dinner of Harry Hall, the well-known civil and sporting tailor—and artiste and humorist in the concert world—of 207, Oxford-street, W., and 31, Eldon-street, E.C., was held on Saturday last at the Holborn Restaurant. After the usual loyal toasts Mr. Hall responded to the principal toast of the evening. He reviewed the firm's progress during the past year and quite voiced the feelings of the staff when he stated that the firm intended to again have a record year.

At the conclusion of his speech Mr. Hall was presented with a silver fitted dressing case and an illuminated testimonial by his staff as a mark of their appreciation for the kindly interest he took on their behalf.

An excellent entertainment followed under the direction of Mr. Harry Mills and Mr. C. J. Payne Woods. Among the artistes who contributed to the programme were: Miss Hilda Hudson, Miss Jessie Key, Miss Rosa Loder, Miss Nellie Perryer, Miss Elsie Steadman, and Messrs. William Aspinal, Will Bentley, James Blackwood, Chas. Conyers, Fred Curtis, Algernon Fox, Ted Honeyman, Sydney Locklynne, Dick Loyd, Roland Merry, Chas. Morton, Percy Mortlock, Ben Osborne, Jack Treval, Fred Wilson, and the head of the firm, Mr. Harry Hall.

CHISWICK EMPIRE.

The chief laughter-maker in the bill here is Ernie Lotinga in "Blue Bottles," quite the merriest thing this talented comedian has ever done. The company is all round good. Mr. Bert Roper lends material assistance as Richard Clayton; and Miss Mamie Thorpe is decidedly tragic as Elsie Clayton. Mr. Adolph Luck does splendidly as Bill Bernard; and Inspector Gale, of Scotland Yard, finds a capable representative in Mr. Harold B. Lewis. "Blue Bottles" is a shriek of merriment. In "song and story" Mr. Cooper Mitchell hits off the eccentricities of the modern melodrama, and is an excellent vocalist, actor, and mimic. He was awarded the compliment of a double "call" on the evening of our visit, and deserved it. A farcical mix-up, entitled "Cohen's Mistake," is built up on a somewhat shallow groundwork. Luckily, it is capitally interpreted by the popular Hebrew delineator, Mr. Hayman, and Mildred Franklin. "Cohen's Mistake" is an amusing trifle. In "Sunny Southern Pastimes" Belle Davis presents her company of "Cracker Jacks," whose humour proves infectious, and sets the house screaming at the antics of these droll nigger boys. Belle Davis, a vocalist of much skill and amazing energy, assists in keeping the fun at concert pitch. The "Cracker Jacks" are welcome, and their reception was tremendous.

Mr. Fred Storey is here in a version of "Rip Van Winkle," and holds the audience spellbound throughout by a fine impersonation of the schnapps-loving Rip. The scenery—much of which is charming—is from the brush of this artist-actor, whose versatility knows no end. Other attractive "turns" this week are Ben Albert, a comedian of fine calibre; Irene Penso, an Italian violinist of brilliance; and Mlle. Lavina and her docile monkeys. As one watches the antics of these, the conviction forces itself on one that perhaps Darwin was right after all. No one visiting Chiswick should omit to be in time for the fine overture—this week Auber's "Fra Diavolo"—rendered in perfect style by the admirable orchestra, conducted by Mr. G. W. Eyre. Mr. A. J. Barclay, who has left, will be greatly missed. His courtesy and kindness to the Fourth Estate were proverbial. Mr. Desmond Young, now in managerial control, has our best wishes.

The production of "Red 'Ria," by Gertrude and Jack Landa, in which Miss Edyth Goodall will play a cockney character, at the Tivoli, has been postponed until Jan. 20.

BRAIN FILCHING.

BY THE LITTLE MAN.

Brain filching describes accurately the worst grievance from which the members of the variety artistes' profession suffer. It is not a malady peculiar to this profession, for in all the professions and in all branches of trade the ideas of one brilliant man are purloined by another who has less initiative, less originality, and yet has the sense to see the value of a new and good idea. A few years ago this was demonstrated very largely in movements in connection with the daily Press. The "Daily Mail," the child of the brain of the then Alfred C. Harmsworth, was the first halfpenny daily newspaper which made successfully a serious attempt at giving all the news of the day. When he had demonstrated by his tremendous success the fact that the halfpenny daily newspaper was the thing the people required, other halfpenny newspapers grew up like mushrooms in the night, and it was not many years after that old-established penny papers like the "Daily News," the "Daily Chronicle," and others reduced their tariff to meet the occasion. In trade there have been many examples. A brainy pioneer like Sir Joseph Lyons started tea shops which sold other things than tea, and other old established concerns, whose shares had been standing in the market at one time at a phenomenal figure, had, after a long struggle, to copy the Lyons methods. But the copyist in trade or in journalism does not do nearly as much harm, if indeed he does any at all, to the man he copies, as does the vaudeville artiste who deliberately imitates the turn of his brother or sister. The reason for this is that the variety artiste has to stand upon his own resourcefulness as an individual, fighting all competition, and overcoming opposition, both fair and unfair, entirely out of his own brain, and his own personality, whilst the big combination in either the Press world or the world of trade has much greater financial and other resources.

Far be it from me to say that imitation is an out-and-out bad thing, for in many cases imitation only emphasises by its paucity the superiority of the originator.

As one well-known artiste wrote: "Harry Lauder is at the top of the Highlands where the heather grows, but although there are plenty more Scotch comedians, there is still only one Harry, and probably Harry Lauder's position and success have been emphasised by the number of imitators who have followed him into his original field." One eminent director in the music hall world says that whilst the cultivation of copyists serves the public on a larger scale with a new and popular turn, yet ultimately copying of acts is bad because it tends to stultify originality, and by an act being duplicated several times the novelty of that act is more quickly worn out, and thus harm is done to the originator.

Some curious arguments have been offered me by those who see no harm in one artiste copying another artiste's acts. Here is an example. A certain well-known star, who is probably one of the greatest draws in London as well as the provinces, complained to a member of the Variety Artistes' Federation that his act was being deliberately copied, both as to make-up, as to patter, and as to action, and inquired whether the Federation could not take some steps towards altering this state of things, and was told that it was really nothing to worry about, because the clever person at the top of the tree could always work out new jokes, get out new make-up, and otherwise make a new turn. The reply, as all my readers will agree, to say the least of it, was not comforting, and I imagine that if the brain of the star had to be cudgelled into turning out new stuff every two or three weeks, that star would quickly cease from shining at the top of the bill.

The incidents of acts being copied could be easily multiplied, but the following letter from a lady, whose name is a household word, gives very succinctly particulars of the copying of her act:—

"My act has been copied by ——, who has been here a long time. She copied it even to the very title. . . . All the idea but the last item (item here mentioned) this she did not do. . . .

"I had been told by heaps of people of this —— and how she had copied my show. Some time afterwards I was on the bill with her, and had I not seen her music books at rehearsal with the title —— she would surely be on before *me* on programme and her act would certainly have taken the gilt off my act. I spoke to the lady, and she told me that she had never heard of me. I answered by saying I had been hearing a great deal about her, but that I did not think that anyone could be quite so barefaced until I saw it with my own eyes."

Here is another case:

"Re copying of my ideas and act, I will just enclose you some of my recent advertisements in the 'Performer.' I am told by people who have seen the act (which is managed and put on by my former servant, who was with me over four years, and who just returned with me, having completed a 'Round the World' tour with me) that they show exactly the same things as I do. *All these ideas are mine*, and I certainly do think it no less than stealing to copy in such flagrant fashion. Don't you?"

The principal reason, I take it, why the V.A.F. have never handled the question of copying acts with success is that they see only one way in which to deal with it, and that by means of cumbersome machinery which, whilst being tremendously expensive, would never give good results. They have, I believe, attacked the question from the point of view of registering all performances, but this never could be successful, and, in the first place, it is too much to ask an artiste to patent or copyright his act, even if that were possible, before he puts it on.

The method of dealing with the evil seems to me to be to approach it from the point of view that was borne in mind in framing the copyright law as that law concerns the publication of books. An act at a music hall is published on the music hall stage, the audience paying to see that act just as readers of books pay over the counter of a bookseller's for a copy of a literary work. If one publisher publishes a copy of another publisher's book then the second publisher has a right of action against the first. In the case of the publication of acts upon the stage, who is the responsible person who stands in the same position relatively with the publisher of the book? Surely the proprietor of the music hall. Then why should not the proprietor of the music hall be made responsible for publishing upon his stage copies of acts which are damaging to the interests not only of the individual artiste who is copied, but to the wider interests of the profession as a whole?

A man who writes a popular book is protected by copyright law, so that the work of his brain, which may have taken him a lifetime to produce, shall not be ruined by the copyist.

Why should not the act of the music hall artiste who has passed through his days of strenuous labour and toil, be similarly protected, so that his novelty may last the longer, and should grow into a success to reward him for the days in which he has persevered and persistently struggled through.

Next week I shall deal with the effect of Brain Filching in the variety profession upon the profession as a whole, and also with its effect upon the interests of managers and proprietors.

In the meantime, I shall be glad to hear from those many unfortunate artistes who suffer from the copyist; and will they send me particulars of their complaints?

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

VAUDEVILLE IN AUSTRALIA.

HUGH D. McINTOSH, PROPRIETOR AND IMPRESARIO.

No man in Australia better illustrates the value of hustle when brought to a fine art than Hugh D. McIntosh, once a waiter, then a fight promoter, and now the proprietor of the Rickards Vaudeville Circuit, one of the most valuable theatrical properties in Australia. Hugh D. McIntosh has done all this in the short space of ten years—has risen from nothing to the position of a man who could go in single-handed and buy the most profitable theatre business in the Commonwealth, with the certainty that there was enough in it to provide him with an income that most men would consider a large fortune.

Mr. Hugh D. McIntosh's deal, by which he bought the whole of the vast Rickards Vaudeville Circuit in Australasia, was the biggest theatrical coup ever brought off under the Southern Cross. In fact, this giant promoter, who is already well known in three continents in boxing, athletics, and theatres, is now known throughout the Antipodean Press as Mr. Huge Deal McIntosh.

Hugh's Enterprise.

The Circuit belonged to the late vaudeville pioneer, Harry Rickards. It covers the ownership of theatres in the greatest Australian cities—Sydney (700,000 people), Melbourne (600,000), and Adelaide (200,000)—with long leases, up to 50 years, of theatres in other great cities of 100,000 and over. The late Mr. Harry Rickards made a fortune out of these theatres. But since Mr. Hugh McIntosh took them over, they have boomed as they never boomed before. In every city every night they have seen packed houses, and each week has been a new record in success. Mr. McIntosh has the habit of doing things on the giant scale. When he came into the world of boxing promoters, in 1908, he was a mammoth caterer in Sydney, the biggest city in the Southern hemisphere. He started off with the intention of having a world's championship boxed in Sydney, and he succeeded immediately. Almost at a leap he became the biggest boxing promoter in the whole world, with undertakings which extended over England, Europe, and America. The same vast scale has at once characterised his dealings with vaudeville, and it may be safely prophesied that he will soon be recognised as one of the most important theatrical units in the world.

Early Career.

The career of Mr. McIntosh is most interesting. He is a shining example of Australia's self-made men. When he was nine years old he was earning his own living as a boy picking ore at the great Broken Hill silver mines. He went through all the vicissitudes of a man who tries to hustle when and where he can. When the New South Wales League of Wheelmen was in dire extremities about ten years ago, it appointed Hugh D. McIntosh its paid secretary. It was a last report, and was regarded as a forlorn hope. To the surprise of everybody, McIntosh pulled through, and made the League into a powerful, wealthy body. Cyclists are the most difficult people in the world to deal with. McIntosh treated them as he had treated the unruly guests and obnoxious waiters. He adopted the principle of conducting all arguments in his office. He would airily wave about a roll of music—a song called "Oh, how delightful"—which he now regards as his mascotte. When the final moment came, and war appeared in the racing cyclist's eye, McIntosh would drop one end of the song carelessly on his desk. The thump revealed the fact that inside the song was a bar of iron. The cyclist knew, too, that M'Intosh would use the bar without hesitation, and the argument always ended with the secretary winning. McIntosh was the Czar of cycling in New South Wales. He was referee of the League and president of the Australasian Cycling Council, which controlled racing throughout Australiasia. He retired from the game after the last Sydney Thousand, in 1906, the same year that he sold out of the catering business. He, however, kept on a number of accommodation houses at National Park, Mount Kosciusko, and other resorts.

Mr. McIntosh, who is interested in municipal affairs, has just been nominated as alderman of his native city of Sydney, and has refused nomination for a seat in Parliament. His career is a triumphant story of energy and grit, with the enterprise which likes a venture all the more according as it is greater.

Australia, which is the native country of Madame Melba, Oscar Asche, Marie Löhr, and a host of other operatic and theatrical celebrities, is a country of huge prosperity, and full of the finest opportunities for bold theatrical enterprises; for its people are among the most pleasure-loving in the world. This is the field into which Mr. McIntosh has brought his acknowledged genius for organisation and development. Some of his previous successes have been startling. One boxing contest—that in which Burns lost the world's championship to Johnson, in Sydney, in 1908—had a turnover of over £63,000 in prices of admission and picture rights, for less than two hours' display in the ring. The new owner of the great vaudeville circuit in Australasia has the habit of calculating on the biggest returns from the best material; and at the present moment, from the quality of its artistes and the size of its revenue, the reorganised McIntosh Circuit ranks right among the premier vaudeville businesses of the world.

Australian Variety Futures.

This acquisition of the Rickards theatres is no new idea with the boxing king of the Southern hemisphere, but it was only in recent months that the opportunity came. As soon as the chance was opened, Mr. McIntosh seized it, and already a new era of great happenings in Australasian vaudeville has begun. At the present moment, in addition to filling the theatres of the Australian continent as they were never filled before, the Circuit is despatching to the neighbouring Dominion of New Zealand the largest and most expensive vaudeville company it has ever seen.

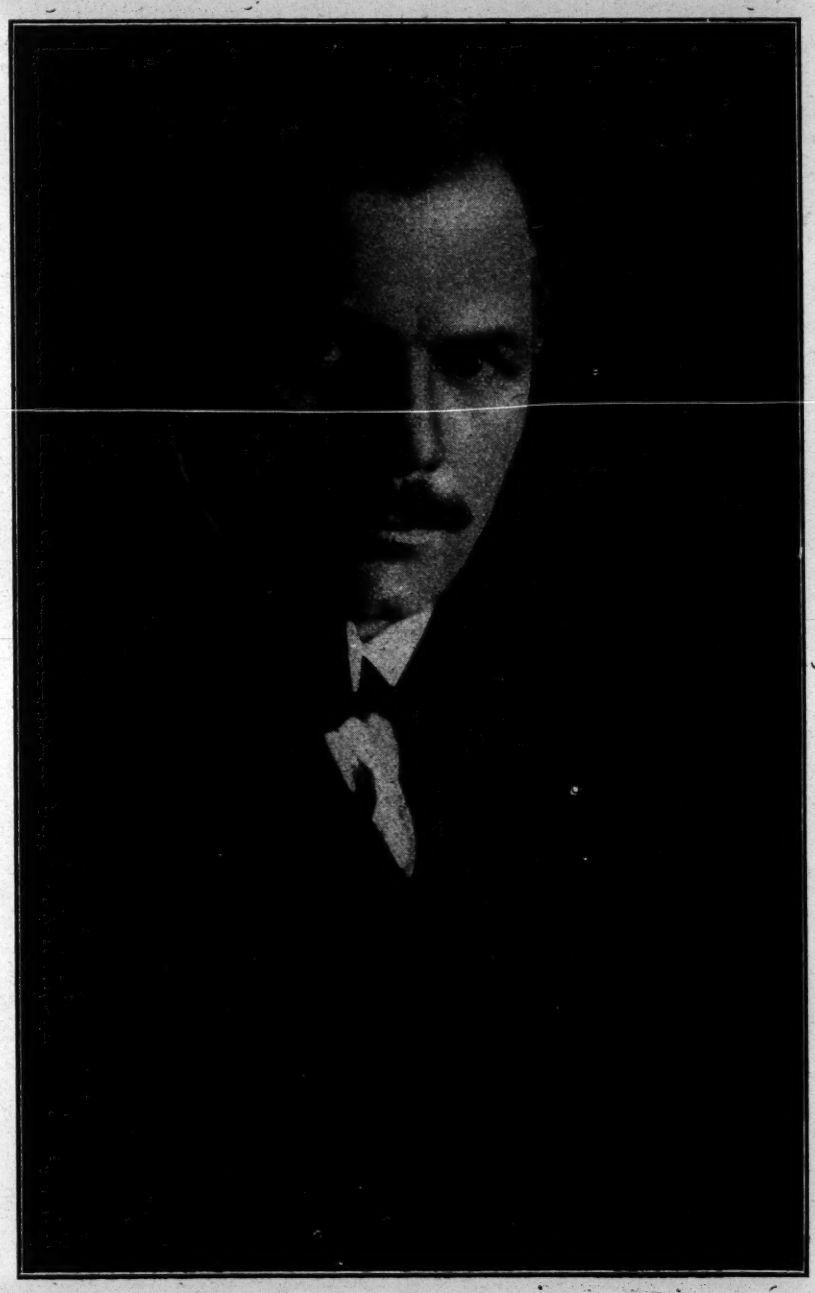


Photo Rudolph Buchner.

MR. HUGH D. McINTOSH.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.

Mr. Stoll has provided his patrons with a charming pantomime in Charles Austin and Duncan and Godfrey's "Aladdin," cleverly potted, so that it is possible to play comfortably to two houses nightly. The scenes are particularly well staged, and beautiful dresses are displayed in the palace scene. Miss Minnie Duncan is an ideal Aladdin, her singing of "You beautiful doll" and "That mysterious rag" being thoroughly enjoyed. Mr. Arthur Godfrey's Abanazar is quite good, his business throughout stamping him as a genuine comedian. A decided success is made by Mr. James Leslie as Wishee Washee, and his many antics are really funny. Mr. Leslie has a clever duet with Miss Kitty Lynn, the dance at the finale being quite a feature. Another good comedian is Mr. Fred Beck, his style suiting the character of Widow Twankey splendidly. He has plenty of really funny gags and is fortunate, also, in having good songs. As the Princess Miss Elsie Collins looks quite charming, her dainty style and voice being valuable assets. Miss Collins is lucky in the choice of songs, for she is making a great success with "Garden of roses" and "Everybody's doing it," the latter being worked as a duet with Mr. Billy Barclay, who dances in excellent style. Baby Alice is a charming little fairy, her words being very clearly pronounced. Mr. Jack Barlow makes an imposing Vizier, his fine bass voice being particularly well suited in the song, "Roll on, deep blue sea." The smaller parts are well cared for by Miss Shirley Grey, Miss Cora Brasque, and the Misses Mimi and Marie Royale and Mr. Harry Morris.

A competition for music composers is announced by a firm of music publishers in Genoa, the Editoria Musicale Genovese. The competition is open to composers of every nationality, and musical works of any character are eligible. The prizes to be awarded include a sum of three hundred francs, a silver medal presented by the municipality of Genoa, other medals of gold, silver, and bronze, and diplomas of honour. For regulations and other particulars intending competitors should address Editoria Musicale Genovese, Via Luccoli, 22, Genoa.

ARTISTES' PRESS ALBUM.

This column is placed at the disposal of artistes who desire to give added publicity to the opinions passed by the Press upon their acts. Particulars of insertion may be obtained on application to the Advertisement Manager.

FRED SPENCER.

"Cinderella."

The main burden of the fun, however, falls upon Mr. Fred Spencer, who is entrusted with the character of Winnie, the Baroness. He proves himself a veritable tower of strength, playing with much fertility of resource and keeping the fun at high pressure. Surely there never was a better dame than that supplied by Freddy Spencer.—From "The Era."

FRED SPENCER.

MR. LEONARD TEEL.

Mr. Leonard Teel is quite in the forefront of any fun going. He has an imperturbable cast of countenance, just suited to his part, and a natural, unforced humour and drollery. His songs, "Why do the men run after me?" and "There he was again," are inimitably rendered with unfailing comicality, and he is also a grotesque dancer of no mean order.—From "The Era," Dec. 28, 1912.

CHANGES AT CANNING TOWN.

The Imperial Palace, Canning Town, has been taken over by a new company, registered as The Imperial Palace Co., Ltd., with Mr. Wallie Rice as managing-director, and Mr. G. W. Coe as acting-manager. The former gentleman was previously associated with the Greenwich Hippodrome, while Mr. Coe, as announced in "The Era" of Saturday last, was for many years at Dartford, and has filled numerous important positions in other parts of the provinces.

Since the new régime was inaugurated a fortnight ago, business has been excellent, a somewhat surprising feature in view of the recent closing down of the Thames Ironworks, many of the employees of which are frequent patrons of what they still affectionately recall as the old Royal Albert Music Hall. For time was when the present Imperial ranked among the first variety houses of East London, and it is the avowed intention of the present directorate to win back for it its former popularity and the success of bygone days. So far their efforts have been well supported, for large "houses" have been the rule rather than the exception. For the opening week, John Lawson in "Humanity" was the chief attraction.

Our representative found an appreciative audience watching with great interest the revolutions of Captain de Villiers' airship, a wonderful piece of mechanism entirely controlled by wireless electricity transmitted from the stage. Whilst in full flight, imitation bombs are dropped upon the heads of the audience, and one has only to exercise one's imaginative faculties a little to appreciate the destructive powers of such a formidable adversary in actual warfare.

Astonishment at the marvels of air conquest was succeeded by admiration of the artistic acting, sweet singing, and dainty dancing of the Floradoras in their musical scena, "Two's Company, Three's None." A most amusing feature of this production was the introduction of one of the local gallants, whose energetic but unsuccessful efforts to compete with his fair companions as an exponent of high-kicking evoked roars of laughter. Ernest Montefiore and company in "The Little Colonel" provided another attraction. The piece is remarkable for some clever child-acting, and should be witnessed at the first opportunity by those who have not seen it. Lil Elfreda also figured in the bill, and her mimicry of such well-known artistes as Miss Marie Lloyd and Harry Lauder proved quite a popular feature. Some smart work on the horizontal bar was contributed by Hugo and Hyam. Hyram Travers, the original "Pearly King," was in great form with his latest songs. Hyram has a confidential way with him, and as a genuine comic coster can show the way to many of the youngsters. Alf Willis further added to his reputation as an eccentric comedian, while Norman was responsible for a musical turn, in which such haunting melodies were introduced as the Barcarolle from "Tales of Hoffmann" and "William Tell."

CARMO IN A STRAIT-JACKET.

Mr. Carmo, the clever phantasist, illusionist, &c., ended a most successful week at Buxton Opera House on Saturday evening. There have been crowded houses, proving the drawing qualities of this talented performer. On the opening night of the engagement Carmo's manager came to the front, and, in a neat speech, invited several gentlemen from the audience to secure the "devil's cage," which is an exact facsimile of a Chinese torture cage. The challenge was accepted, but Carmo succeeded both in his ingress and egress.

One business gentleman, however, was more dubious than his colleagues, and issued a counter-challenge to Mr Carmo that his (Carmo's) hands should be fastened. This was also accepted, and on Friday evening, before another packed house, the cage was enveloped in a wonderful network of ropes, chains, and padlocks, and Mr. Carmo further arrayed in a strait-jacket, thus securing his hands, also stopping all bodily movements. In about fifteen minutes he had entered the cage, and in about the same space of time he had worked his way out again. Previous to the performance the cage had been thoroughly examined by blacksmiths, engineers, &c.

Mr. Carmo confesses that this constituted the most severe fastening he had ever experienced, and the challenger and fastener also allowed that he was completely astounded, but none the less satisfied, that Carmo was the cleverer man.

"A SISTER TO ASSIST 'ER."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ERA.

Dear Sir,—I am informed upon reliable authority that two artistes who have worked several times at the same hall as Mr. Fred. Emney and Miss Sydney Farebrother, have made complete notes of the words and business of my playlet, with a view to playing it under another title in America. It would perhaps save a great deal of trouble in the future if these gentry could be made aware that they are being kept under careful observation by Messrs. Samuel French, Ltd., acting as sole agents for Mr. Emney and myself for the dramatic rights of the playlet.

I beg also to inform you that, upon our representing to the management of the Empire Theatre that their burlesque of this playlet in their revue was a little too much like the original, they at once withdrew it, and I have now replaced it with a burlesque written by myself, which I think will enable their clever mimics to give an excellent imitation of Mr. Fred. Emney and Miss Sydney Farebrother.—Yours faithfully,

JOHN LE BRETON.

Pleydell House, E.C., Jan. 6.

The grand theatrical and fancy dress carnival at the Croydon Roller-Skating Rink on the 1st inst. was a big success, the rink being crowded with handsome and amusing costumes. Many professionals and managers from the local theatres attended, and a very pleasant evening did not finish until past midnight. There was keen competition for the valuable prizes offered for best costumes in various classes.

CHRONOLOGY OF THE MONTH.

Dec. 1.—Complimentary dinner to Mr. Wm. Poel, Trocadero Restaurant, Mr. Granville Barker in the chair.
,, 1.—100th night of "The Girl in the Taxi" at the Lyric.
,, 3.—Stage Needlework Guild Exhibition, Grosvenor House, Park-lane.
,, 3.—Annual meeting Catholic Stage Guild, Sodality Hall, Farm-street, the Rev. Father Sidney Smith in the chair.
,, 3.—Matinée at the London Hippodrome in aid of the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund.
,, 4.—Last performance of "Everywoman" at Drury Lane.
,, 4.—Christmas Pantomime Ball at the Albert Hall.
,, 5.—Last performance of "The Price" at the Aldwych.
,, 6.—Twentieth annual meeting Theatrical Ladies' Guild, St. James's Theatre, Miss Fanny Brough in the chair.
,, 6.—Public Control Committee of the London County Council held a special sitting for the purpose of licensing employment agencies.
,, 7.—Fifty-fifth annual dinner of the Savage Club, Connaught Rooms, Great Queen-street, Lord Moulton in the chair.
,, 7.—Last performance of "Find the Woman" at the Garrick, and of "Monte Cristo" at the Prince's.
,, 7.—Reopening of the Camden Theatre as a picture house.
,, 7.—50th performance of "The Dancing Mistress" at the Adelphi.
,, 8.—Dinner at the Midland Hotel, Manchester, to Mr. Edwin T. Heys, formerly manager of the Manchester Repertory Theatre.
,, 8.—Annual dinner Actors' Association, Hotel Cecil, Mr. Cyril Maude presiding.
,, 8.—First annual meeting Beneficent Order of Terriers, Three Stags Hotel, Mr. Ben Obo in the chair.
,, 9.—Opening of the New Theatre Royal, Guildford.
,, 9.—Sir Herbert Tree arrived in New York and was the guest of honour at a luncheon given by Mr. Frederick Townsend Martin.
,, 9.—Opening of the Hippodrome, Northampton.
,, 9.—Reopening of the Canterbury with pictures and varieties.
,, 12.—Matinée at the London Pavilion in aid of the Metropolitan and City Police Orphanage.
,, 12.—Annual meeting Victoria Palace, Ltd.
,, 13.—Half-yearly general meeting of the Touring Managers' Association, Managers' Club, Mr. Wentworth Croke in the chair.
,, 13.—Fourth "Birthday Party" of the Actresses' Franchise League, Criterion Restaurant.
,, 14.—Mr. and Mrs. Matheson Lang arrived from Australia.
,, 14.—Matinée at the Wood Green Empire in aid of local charities.
,, 14.—Last performance of "Oliver Twist" at the Lyceum.
,, 15.—A discussion on the moral tendency of theatrical performances opened by Mr. J. T. Herbert Bailey at the Sylvan Debating Club, Tavistock Hotel.
,, 15.—Twenty-second annual dinner of the Actors' Benevolent Fund, Hotel Metropole, the Duke of Teck in the chair.
,, 16.—Opening of the Bristol Hippodrome.
,, 17.—Charles Coborn Matinée at the Oxford.
,, 18.—Marriage of Miss Maudie Wood and Mr. E. Wheatley, Church of St. John the Evangelist, Brixton.
,, 19.—Opening of the New Theatre, Luton.
,, 20.—Last performance of "Fanny's First Play" at the Kingsway.
,, 20.—Fiftieth anniversary of the Metropolitan Music Hall.
,, 20.—Football match, Theatres v. Halls, in aid of the "Daily Mirror" Pudding Fund, Fulham.
,, 21.—Marriage of Mr. Fred Peel and Miss Louise May North, Parish Church, Clapham.
,, 21.—Production of "The Miracle" pictures at Covent Garden.
,, 22.—Playgoers' Club "Peter Pan" dinner, Hotel Cecil, Mr. Marshall Hall, K.C., M.P., in the chair.
,, 23.—The Lyceum, Stafford, reopened as the Playhouse.
,, 23.—Reopening of the Imperial, Canning Town, under the management of Mr. W. Rice.
,, 25.—Marriage of Miss Violet Durham and Mr. Richard G. Foyer, Corpus Christi Church, Brixton.
,, 25.—Marriage of Miss Grace Dundas Slater and Mr. Edward Thynne Eaton, St. Marylebone Church.
,, 26.—Opening performance of the Palladium Minstrels at the Palladium.
,, 26.—Reopening of the London Opera House with a fairy play, varieties and pictures.
,, 26.—Appointment of Mr. Frank Allen as managing-director of Moss' Empires, Ltd., in succession to the late Sir Edward Moss.
,, 26.—Opening of the New Theatre, Manchester, with "Kismet."
,, 29.—Mass meeting at the Victoria Hall, Waterloo-road, under the auspices of the National Association of Theatrical Employees, Mr. James O'Grady, M.P., in the chair.
,, 30.—Opening of the annual conference of the Incorporated Society of Musicians at Birmingham.
,, 31.—100th performance of "The Turning Point" at the St. James's and of "Doormats" at Wyndham's.
,, 31.—Fourth annual "Old Folks' Dinner" at the Music Hall Benevolent Institution, Brinsworth.

Miss Caicedo, the talented pianist, has arranged and adapted the music to the pictures at the Strand Cinema, Agar-street, W.C. It is a real pleasure to listen to the accompaniments as played by Miss Caicedo.

At Cambridge Borough Quarter Sessions on Monday Frank Charles Vaughan, who stated that until recently he was manager of the Palace Music Hall, New Brighton, pleaded guilty to obtaining credit at a Cambridge hotel by false pretences. He subsequently admitted his guilt in twenty-five separate cases of tendering worthless cheques amounting in the aggregate to over £1,100, and was sentenced to twelve calendar months' imprisonment.

A very acceptable alteration of the programme took place on New Year's Eve in the second house at the Royal Hippodrome, Dover. At the conclusion of Miss Molly Lindsay's sketch, "The Washing House Key," the curtain was raised and Jock Bell came in from the wings and, as a prelude, wished her a happy New Year, bringing with him a bottle of Johnny Walker and a glass. He was followed by the remainder of the artistes at the Hippo., and all joined hands and sang "Auld Lang Syne," in which they were enthusiastically accompanied by the audience.

TERRIERS' NEW YEAR BANQUET

FIRST UNDER THE NEW CONSTITUTION.

With their new dignity fresh upon them, the Beneficent Order of Terriers assembled to the number of forty or more at the Boulogne Restaurant, Gerrard-street, on Sunday, to celebrate their first New Year banquet as an Order. The Terriers' Society attained its majority last year, but the expediency of converting it into an Order confined to members of the profession has long been recognised, and that work has now been accomplished to the satisfaction of its members. The attitude of the old society was suggested in the menu card, which depicted a terrier of noble mien ascending with every appearance of satisfaction the steps of the guillotine, the blade of which was marked "Dissolution," while his former brethren stood round enjoying themselves with evident confidence in their future.

The chair was occupied by Terrier Ben Obo, president, who, during the concert that followed, having to depart, surrendered the post to Terrier Syd Walker, vice-president.

Others present were Terriers A. Voyce, Jim Obo, Arthur Gallimore, Ken Gallimore, Halma, Jack Gallagher, Willie Benn, Frank Melvin, Will Cody, T. C. Callaghan, H. M. Darsie, Jas. Dunedin, Jack Barker, Fred Hughes, Neville Delmar, Syd Crossley, Joe Redfern, Fred Day, Tom Moore, Walter Norman, Fred W. Millis, Bruce Green, Harry Bent, Billy Day, Laurie Hunter, Squire Wyndham, Yettmah, Ed. H. Lucas, Tom E. Cliffe, Dan Robans, Tom Maxwell, Tom Packer, Harry Falls, and Arthur Were (secretary).

THE TOAST OF THE TERRIERS.

The loyal toast having been drunk, the Chairman, who was cordially received, gave "The Beneficent Order of Terriers." He said it gave him the greatest pleasure in the world to propose success and long life to that Order. It was at present an infant, and it was some little time coming into creation, but he was sure it would reach man's estate. They realised that it would be more beneficial to have an association of performers carried on by performers only. Therefore, anything that would be said or done would be thoroughly understood by each member, and none would misconstrue their meanings. (Hear, hear.) He was indeed pleased to be at that inauguration dinner. The proof of the pudding was in the eating. They started to make a pudding for good boys, and that pudding was now an actual fact, with a good sound understanding. There was no mere talking about it. They said they were going to have the Association and they had got it. It was all amongst themselves, each one helping the other, all having as much interest as the other, and thereby keeping the wheel rolling in one direction on the road to success and for the benefit of every member concerned. (Cheers.) They wanted that feeling of brotherly love, that feeling that they were working for the benefit of others and not alone for themselves. They all knew that it gave a person greater pleasure to help someone else besides himself, and when one of the boys fell sick there was always the pleasurable feeling that he would be well looked after. They had been tied in the past, but now their hands were untied. Instead of the benefits diminishing, they would be greatly increased. He felt more than proud that they had organised a society that would prove one to be reckoned with in the professional world.

The toast was honoured with enthusiasm, followed by the singing of the "Terriers' Anthem" and the pledging of absent Terriers.

Telegrams of good wishes were read from Dalmain and Reeve, Bert Marsden, James Carr, Fred Fields, and Damerell, Rutland, and Whitley.

THE SECRETARY'S RESPONSE.

Mr. Arthur Were responded to the toast, and was greeted with the elaborate "chord on" due to his standing as a comedian. His speech was interrupted by frequent laughter. He said:—

Mr. President and Terriers,—When the Beneficent Order of Terriers was inaugurated, I was under the painful delusion that some other martyr would respond to this toast for the next century, but my brightest hopes are shattered. I appear to be doomed, and you have me on the one bit of toast for ever. Perhaps you are to be pitied the most, for you have to grin and bear it, and it must be very trying for some of our talkative members to sit still and listen to anybody, particularly to the ornamental scribe who upon these occasions is more loquacious than the rest. However, your president having suffered from the secretarial eloquence at previous functions, has commanded me to cut it short, and, in view of the current discussions on the question of providing the secretary with a thousand-guinea motor-car, I must bow (wow) to his request.

After the eventful proceedings of the past few months and the threats of a fishy action for moral and intellectual damages, really it is a wonder that I am here at all. I anticipated being in Bedlam or Newgate. I have survived the evil effects of licking stamps on the junior clerk's Insurance card, I have patiently endured his lamentations on our parsimony in deducting his proportion, and I have failed dismally in trying to convince him that he would receive nine pennyworth of refreshing fruit for fourpence, and Epsom salts and senna tea for nothing. I have calmly contemplated the sword of Damocles suspended o'er my head in the shape of dissolution, and I have waited for the long-expected cheques and a New Year's gift of kippers with silent fortitude.

With regard to stamp licking, Terrier Tom Packer is the champion for Lambeth and a man after Lloyd George's heart, for he has cheerfully licked thousands of stamps on circulars, and though subsequently he has developed an abnormal thirst for mild and bitter, which has been a serious drain upon the assistant secretarial profits, still, he has managed to blossom forth as a Beau Brummel of the period, and his sartorial appearance proclaims the advent of the cheques and the affluent condition of our new banking account. When we have successfully completed our spring campaign for arrears of subs., I hope that he will settle down to his usual congenial occupation of arranging cricket matches which never come off. In regard to the Beneficent Order of Terriers, we have made an excellent start, with the assistance of our motherly adviser, Terrier Barry Lupino, and we confidently expect him to fulfil the office of W.T. in an acrobatic rag (and bone) time. Our relations with Foreign Powers, managers, and agents continue to be friendly, and we are working in harmony with the Grand Order of Water Rats and other vaudeville societies. (Hear, hear.) It is true that we miss some of the dear old faces in the Meet and the "Hatton Garden" display, but if we have waved the red flag of Revolution in the fight for Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity, we can remember gratefully those who have rendered meritorious services in the past. (Cheers.)

We should like to have seen more of them go cheerfully to the Dissolution guillotine, murmuring, à la Sydney Carton, "It is the only way. It is a far better thing they do than we have ever done. It is a far, far longer rest we go to than any 'resting' they have known." Times have changed, and nowadays variety performers are quite capable of managing their own affairs, and can dispense with the plutocracy of the past. The Beneficent Order of Terriers will be maintained in the best interests of variety artistes by the members themselves, and time will prove that it can be successfully conducted on the lines intended.

After reading a few imaginary telegrams, which caused great amusement, Mr. Were proceeded. You have to thank your president, Terrier Ben Obo, for the great services he has rendered to the Order. Few know of the enormous amount of time he has devoted to your interests during the past three months. (Hear, hear.) You owe a debt of gratitude to Terrier Albert Voyce—(cheers)—who has been heart and soul with you in your struggle for emancipation, and who has laboured unceasingly on your behalf. He has also revised the ritual in a most able and efficient manner. Your vice-president and officers have also the welfare of the Order at heart, and I am anxiously awaiting the time when your auditors will display their superiority in bookkeeping. Many other Terriers have worked hard for the foundation of the Order; they have given their time, labour, and money for the cause, and it is up to you, Terriers generally, to rally round your leaders (and the cash account) and render enthusiastic support. I should like to take this opportunity of thanking Terriers for the confidence they have reposed in myself, and for the kind assistance they have given me in the work.

Whilst we must strive to maintain harmonious relations with managers, agents, and artistes, to foster the progress of the music-hall industry for mutual prosperity and the benefit of your brother and sister artistes, we must at all costs protect the interests of the Beneficent Order of Terriers.

APPRECIATION OF THE OFFICERS.

Mr. Albert Voyce, who had a hearty reception, said he rose to propose "The Health of the Officers," and had great pleasure in coupling with the toast the names of the respective officials. There was their president, Ben Obo, one of the noble few who had worked right and left with all his soul and all his heart and all his mind for weeks and months to bring about the happy régime under which they now existed. He could tell them that their president was more than worthy of the position to which they had elected him, and the words spoken by their secretary by their present secretary, Terrier Arthur Were. (Cheers.) They fully recognised his services, and the time was not far distant when they would pay him that recognition of which he was really worthy. Next came their towler, Terrier Will Cody, who had occupied the towler's chair on seven or eight occasions and always did his best. Terrier Harry Falls was another brilliant watchdog who had attended innumerable meetings, and had the best interests of the Order at heart. The present happy state of affairs was due in no small measure to the unity and united purpose of their officers, who had stuck together through shade and sunshine to bring about what they had in their minds and pull it through in spite of all opposition. How great a factor in professional politics—he thought that word would serve—the Terriers were, the recent election of the committee drawn up by himself and one or two other active professional men for the benefit of the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Institution, would show. Out of the ninety seats on the executive, seventy were held by Terriers. That showed them that if Terriers agreed to stick together what a power they would be in the professional world. (Applause.) He thought he could say on behalf of the members that every movement undertaken by Terriers in behalf of kindred societies was not necessarily for their own benefit, but for the benefit of the profession in general.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS.

Mr. Jim Obo, in replying, thanked them for electing him as treasurer, and promised to work harder than ever.

Mr. Willie Benn said he had some considerable time away from the Terriers, but he had made up his mind to come back again. They could rely upon him to look after their interests.

Mr. Will Cody also replied, and expressed his appreciation of the honour conferred upon him by electing him first towler for 1913. He was sure the Beneficent Order of Terriers would flourish and prosper a great deal more than the Terriers' Association ever knew how to.

Mr. Harry Falls (vice-towler) said it had been really fell far short of the recompense to which their president was entitled. Their vice-president, Syd Walker, was one of the many loyal hearts to whom they first appealed when the idea of reconstruction came into their minds, and the prompt and whole-hearted manner in which he responded was one of the great encouragements to the people who had the work in hand. Terrier Walker was a man who had the interests of the Order at heart, and none could work harder. Then there were the trustees, Willie Benn and Arthur Gallimore. Benn had just come among them, and had taken a responsible position. He was a business man, he had the best motives for the reconstruction, and he saw great possibilities for the future for the Terriers if they proceeded along the path which they had chosen. He was always amongst the first to help a brother. He did not require to say much about Terrier Arthur Gallimore, because he was connected with so many societies for the benefit of the profession. He had known Mr. Gallimore for a number of years, not only in this organisation, but in others, as a hard worker and a man upon whom they could always rely. (Hear, hear.) Then there was the president's brother, treasurer Jim Obo. They all knew Jim, and they all liked him. He was one of the boys always ready with his help at all times. He referred next to the auditors, Harry Gribben and Julian Mack. Mr. Gribben had helped them when certain other people were anxious to step in the way. He was a man they relied upon at certain times, and found him not wanting. Julian Mack, too, always had the interests of the Order at heart. Their assistant-secretary, Tom Packer, with his watch dogs, had done a lot in connection with the effort to bring about the happy result they were celebrating that evening. They did not want him to say anything about their secretary. He (the speaker) had been a Terrier for twenty years, and he could say the society had never been served so well as his ambition to go through all the offices, and if he had the honour of being appointed worthy towler he would endeavour to collect as many fines as he could possibly inflict. (Laughter.)

KINDRED SOCIETIES.

The Chairman proposed the toast of "The Kindred Societies." He said that as an association of the profession they were naturally closely connected with the kindred societies, and a lot of members of the Terriers' Order were on the committees of many of the societies, and some on all. They knew the work which each society was doing. They were proud to be members of the other executives, and of the fact that when they went to their meetings they were always being asked about their society—proof that they were taking an interest in them.

Mr. E. H. Lucas responded, and said that as far as the Music Hall Artistes' Railway Association and the Variety Artistes' Benevolent Fund and Institution, of both of the committees of which he was a member, were concerned, they would often be unable to get a quorum were it not for the Terriers. Mr. T. C. Callaghan, for instance, was always present, and the other members attended as often as they could. Both the Water Rats and the Terriers worked equally well in their own way for the benefit of the profession. (Hear, hear.)

THE CHAIRMAN.

Mr. Syd Walker proposed the toast of "The Chairman," and, in acknowledgment, Mr. Obo said the function was practically the first they had had, and it was undoubtedly a brilliant success. It was hard to get a number of performers in London at the same time, and, it being pantomime season, they were the more likely to be out of town. Many had come long journeys in order to be present, and he took it as an honour to himself as well as to the Order. (Hear, hear.)

A VETERAN TERRIER.

Mr. Fred Millis said he supposed he was the oldest Terrier in the room, having been twenty-one years a Terrier in March. He had seen a great many vicissitudes in the society, and he was proud they had come to the determination to have it all professional. They would be sorry to see leaving them such people as Terrier White and Sparrow, who had been very good boys, but he was sure they would take it in the right light.

FRATERNAL GREETINGS.

During the concert which followed Mr. Albert Voyce read a letter which had been addressed to the Terriers on behalf of the Grand Order of Water Rats, by the Scribe Rat, Mr. W. H. M'Carthy. It read as follows: "Please accept hearty congratulations on your first social meeting, and best wishes for a happy and prosperous New Year." (Loud cheers.) Mr. Voyce added that it was the installation night of the Water Rats, and Charley Austin was being again installed King Rat. He moved that they send hearty greetings and wishes for a prosperous New Year.

The proposition, seconded by Mr. Arthur Gallimore, was heartily received, and the health of the Water Rats was enthusiastically drunk.

The Chairman said the Water Rats had paid them a very great compliment, of which they were all very proud, because what they wanted was to foster good feeling between the kindred societies.

Subsequently the following message was drawn up and dispatched to the Vaudeville Club: "To King Rat Charley Austin,—The Beneficent Order of Terriers send hearty greetings to the Grand Order of Water Rats, and toast its health with enthusiasm. They also congratulate King Rat on his re-election."

"THE THICK AND THIN QUARTET."

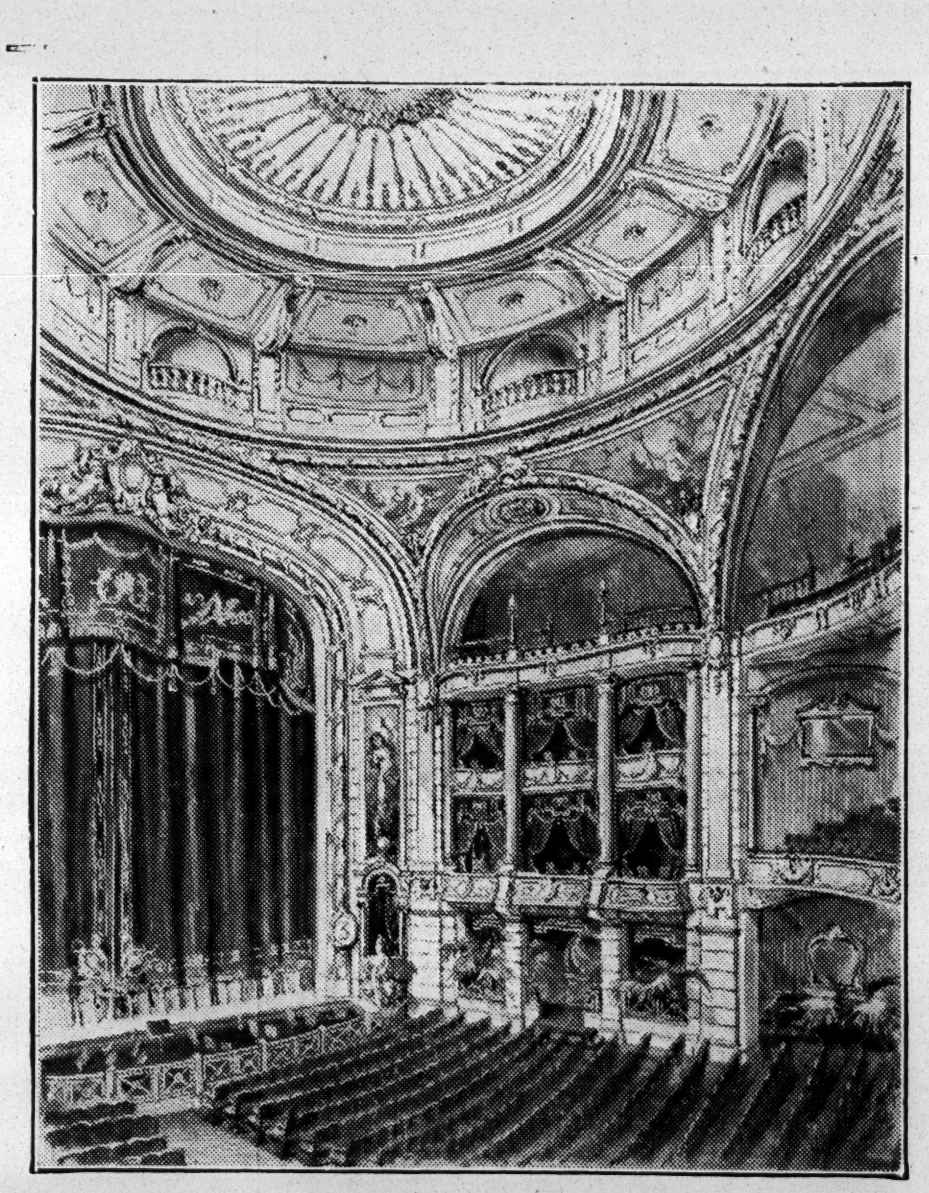
A feature of the enjoyable concert was the first appearance of the above-named quartet, which consisted of the Brothers Obo, Mr. Tom Packer, and Mr. Arthur Were. Each carried a copy of one or other of the professional papers, and each took part in a song of apparently illimitable verses, called "The Whine of the Watchdogs," and having the refrain "Oh, what a happy place is Sammy's!" There were numberless encores for the song, in which the witty pen of Mr. Were could be traced, and the author had to respond to a hearty "call."

The programme was opened by an admirable piano selection by Mr. Horace Bernard, who acted as accompanist throughout. Mr. Dan Robans, who also officiated as musical director, gave a fine rendering of "The bonnie banks of Loch Lomond"; Mr. Bruce Green sang a parody on "Tom Bowling"; Mr. Albert Voyce delighted all with "I'm going to meet the boys." Mr. Syd Crossley made his audience merry with "I'm glad I went to the bar." Mr. Frank Melvin contributed a diverting burlesque on pantomime; and Mr. Barker and Mr. Fred Day also obliged.

Before vacating the chair, Mr. Ben Obo issued an invitation on behalf of himself and the vice-president to all Terriers (present and absent) to be their guests at dinner at the Boulogne Hotel on Sunday, Jan. 26.

One of the neatest and most fascinating dancers operating on the variety stage at the present time is Miss Cissie Lupino, who won honours every evening last week at the Buxton Hippodrome.

Miss Adèle Levey started the New Year auspiciously with an offer from Drury Lane's wonderful musical-director, James Glover, to appear at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth, in May during Jimmy's variety season. Adèle made quite a stir a year or two since at Plymouth as Aladdin, and when Herbert Blackmore asked her to play one of the Ugly Sisters in a "Cinderella" pantomime the next season, we were not surprised to hear that Adèle found some difficulty in concealing her beauty.



THE BRISTOL HIPPODROME.

The above engraving represents the interior of the handsome Bristol Hippodrome recently opened—a building of the success of which Mr. Oswald Stoll is justly proud. The resident-manager is Mr. N. Preston-Hilary.

"THE FUTURE LADY WATTEAU."

This is the title of a screamingly funny sketch which has this week been convulsing visitors to the Holborn Empire. As there is no mention in Debrett's—we have not yet seen the 1913 edition—of the family of Watteau, it may be as well to explain at the outset who and what the various personalities in this particularly amusing sketch are. The cast is as follows:—

The Earl of Watteau .....Mr. Fred A. Ellis
The Hon. Percival Watteau .....Mr. Robert Elliston
Mrs. Belinda Buggins ..Miss Doreen O'Connor
Evelyn Buggins .....Miss Nina Gerrard
Coddle .....Mr. A. V. Mitchell

Mrs. Belinda Buggins is a lady of humble origin, who, having made a small fortune out of whelks, aspires to social position. Her daughter, Evelyn, is educated, as she herself puts it, "above her station," and incidentally becomes acquainted with Percival, the son of the Earl, who falls desperately in love with her. Quite naturally, the time arrives for the infatuated Percival to seek his sire's consent to a union which will link for all time the distinguished house of Watteau with that of the plebeian Buggins's, and it is in this way that the erstwhile proprietress of a Lambeth Walk fish stall finds herself the guest of the noble Earl. One can well imagine the incongruities in deportment, and the consequent ludicrous situations which arise in the course of Mrs. Belinda Buggins's almost frantic efforts to create a favourable impression. She in no way allows the grass to grow beneath her, however, and before her host exactly knows where he stands in the matter, he has not only consented unconditionally to the marriage of his son with the fair Evelyn, but is also persuaded into becoming the bridegroom-elect of Belinda herself. In the latter part, Miss Doreen O'Connor is, without exaggeration, immense. Although her introduction to the Earl is marred by unfortunate incident, she speedily recovers from the somewhat undignified scramble which is the sequel to an insufficiently rehearsed curtsey. "The Future Lady Watteau" has undoubtedly bright prospects if the plaudits of Monday evening's audience are to be taken as any criterion. Mr. Fred Ellis is capital as the Earl, and the other characters are equally well sustained.

The Holborn programme this week is altogether a strong one. Walter Passmore and Co., in "Queer Fish," have proved a decided draw, supported as he is by the talented Miss Agnes Fraser and Johnny Danvers. As Sammy Squibbs, vendor of fireworks, Mr. Passmore finds business in his particular line very slack in August, and, to end his domestic and commercial troubles, throws himself from the pier at Birchington-on-Sea. Down, down he goes until he reaches the precincts of Father Neptune and his charming mermaids. Then all return to terra firma—and Mrs. Squibbs, who not unnaturally resents the strange intrusion. We can prescribe no better cure for the "blues" than a visit to Walter Passmore and Co. in "Queer Fish." Auguste Van Biene, in "The Master Musician," has nightly been delighting large audiences with his 'cello playing. The scene takes place in a New York lodging house, and serves to show that there are easier ways of earning a livelihood than music teaching. Miss Beryl Mercer and Co. have been presenting their successful one-act comedy, "Their Point of View," and among other turns which have proved popular features may be mentioned Kitty Steward, at her grand piano; the Lorbeer Troupe of jugglers; Harry Fields, mimic; the Three Mahers, not inaptly described as the limit in dancing; Farr and Farland, in some very funny business, "The Dude and the Amiable Ass"; Williams and Segal; Ella Shields; Bi-Bo-Bi, the Sousa of the bells; the Jackson Family, trick cyclists; and Ernest H. Mills, lightning cartoonist.

CHUNG LING SOO.

North Country folk during the last few months have been hugely delighted at the opportunity of witnessing the performances of that incomparable illusionist, Chung Ling Soo, who has just completed a most successful Scotch tour, extending over twelve weeks. At the King's Theatre, Greenock, he played to over 35,000 people in one week. His success in Paris prior to his Scotch tour was no less remarkable. In la ville lumière at the Alhambra he played to the capacity of that large house every night for one month, breaking all records. Whilst in the French capital he was fêted and entertained by the Chinese Embassy, at the Chinese Legation, and after the luncheon he delighted the assembled guests, numbering over 200, with an exhibition of his marvellous and mystifying skill. In the evening the members of the Embassy and their friends attended the Alhambra to witness his performance. During the last week of his stay in Paris he gave an afternoon of magical experiments, lasting two and a half hours, in the presence of the Society of Parisian Magicians.

Chung Ling Soo is still touring with his own combination at the various theatres throughout the country, but will return to fulfil engagements in London very shortly. He is booked in this country until June, 1916, after which date he contemplates making a world's tour. He has had numerous offers to appear in America and upon the Continent, which he has been compelled to decline in consequence of existing contracts.

"DICK WHITTINGTON AND HIS CAT" AT THE CHELSEA PALACE.

Messrs. Harry Day and Edward Laurí's comic panto. is this week drawing large and enthusiastic houses here, and deservedly so. Its nine scenes are full of fun, tuneful songs, bright scenery, and joyous processions, while a popular turn is the admirable speciality dancing of the Lottie Stone Troupe of Parisian dancers—a distinct feature of the panto. Mr. Charles Dent extracts any amount of fun from the part of Ald. Fitzwarren. Miss Josie Leyton (Alice) sang, among other ditties, "Keep on swinging me, Charlie," with a roguishness that vastly pleases, and in "Little shepherdess of Devon" gained several deserved encores. Miss Ethel Beech is a gallant Dick, and her rich voice is heard in "My heart is with you tonight," and with a capital chorus in the irresistible "Oh, you beautiful doll." This latter item was taken up with spirit by the audience. Miss Kitty Curtis is a smart Roderick, and sang with animation "Who were you with last night?" The Emperor (Mr. Anthony Gordon) must not be omitted for his delivery of "Down a daffodil vale," and Idle Jack (Mr. Chas. A. Stephenson) "Let's have a game at ring o' roses." The chorus is excellent, and work hard to ensure success. Mr. William Bradley is specially good as the Captain's Mate; Mr. Harry Howe also helps in securing fun as the Captain; while Chas. Lee as the Cook arouses much laughter on each appearance. Miss Annie Ward (May), Miss Millie Bard (Princess), and Tiny Aguzzi, as the Fairy Cat, are each charming in their parts. Mr. J. Oma is to be commended for his acting and pantomime as the Cat. Mr. Fowler Thatcher does exceedingly well as King Rat. Mr. Guillame Leone is a spirited musical-director. The panto. is produced under the personal direction of Mr. Edward Laurí.

The Hastings Corporation invite tenders for the hire of a site on the foreshore at East-parade, Hastings, for entertainments during the summer season. Conditions of letting and form of tender can be obtained on application to Mr. Ben. F. Meadows, town clerk, Hastings.

LONDON VARIETY THEATRES.

THE OXFORD.

Monday evening saw a few alterations to the advertised Oxford bill, Fregolia, G. H. Chirgwin, and Mlle. Eldee all being absent. Fregolia was suffering from a severe cold, but was fortunately able to resume on Tuesday evening. She is indeed popular at the Oxford, and one can quite readily understand that this marvellous protean act pays a second visit to the popular house in a very short time, making three visits, each of several weeks' duration, within a year. On Monday, Fregolia was deputised for by Harry Tate, who appeared in his "Command" success, "Motoring." It is unnecessary to add to the eulogy that has been so unanimously and deservedly heaped upon this amusing scena. "The White-eyed Kaffir" did not appear, owing to unavoidable circumstances, until Wednesday, his place in the programme being filled by the inimitable artiste, Nellie Wallace. Her peculiar low comedy filled the house with sustained laughter. The Brothers Ford are appearing vice Mlle. Eldee. They prove to be step-dancers of some ability, and their turn meets with considerable favour. Billy Brown is an additional "turn." Much that he says is both witty and amusing, but he will meet with more popularity when he ceases to address the audience a trifle sarcastically—so it seemed—when they do not respond immediately to his humour.

Mr. C. Blyth Pratt, the popular manager, sees to it that the Oxford patrons are well supplied with comedians. It is an ideal house for the star comic singer. Arthur Leslie amuses all; and Tom Wootwell raises a rapid succession of hearty laughs by his quaint peculiarities. Gus Garrick, a favourite at this hall, relates the story of a wedding in a diverting manner. That real comedian, George Formby, sings his new song, "We are all good lads together," as only Formby can. Its humour is quite up to the standard he has always given us with such complete success. At the conclusion of his second song he does an amusing quick-change burlesque with the assistance of a selection of Fregolia's wardrobe. Ernest Shand presents an excellent series of rag-time parodies in his song, "The ragtime curate"; whilst Dusty Rhodes makes good by means of a really fine voice and original comedy.

Miss Marie Lloyd, appropriately announced as the "queen of comediennes," introduces a new number in "The Piccadilly trot." It is a characteristic "Marie" ditty, and meets with the fullest approbation, though we think her coster dissertation on a visit to Paris is the best thing she has done for some time. Miss Mary Law, a violin virtuoso, is well received; a similar remark applying to the clever juggling jesters, Cole and Rags. The acrobats, Pasquali Brothers, too, contribute an enjoyable item. The programme concludes with the "Seaside Review," which was criticised in last week's issue.

EDMONTON EMPIRE.

After three weeks under the reign of King Pantomime the Empire, Edmonton, reverts again to variety with Rameses, the magician, as topliner. His marvellous tricks keep a crowded audience spellbound, his quiet manner adding greatly to the effect of all the wonderful things he does. Sam Mayo was in fine form on Monday evening, and gave three of his best songs, "I've only come down for the day," "Far, far away," and his Eskimo song. The Musical Lysters discoursed excellent music with the aid of xylophones, banjos, and the bells. Chummie La Mara contributed two excellent chorus songs, the best being "You must know Mr. Donoghoe." Angus and Angus presented dainty dancing, tuneful music, and clever quick-change impersonations, which were greeted with every manifestation of approval, while Carl Muller is particularly agile in his dancing, especially with the long boots.

Carl Lynn submitted some lifelike impersonations of animals, for which he is famous. Donna Rita, assisted by Fred Romer, met with a gratifying reception, the former giving evidence of her versatility by her quick change from full dress to low comedy, in which she was entirely successful; and Diana Hope and Monty Bayly presented a laughable comedy duologue, "The Penny Dreadful," wherein they appear as man and wife. The latter has, unbeknown to the husband, written a tale for a sensational periodical, and when we state that the former finds telegrams counselling murder and the hiding of remains, which he takes to refer to himself, it will at once be seen that the fun becomes fast and furious. An excellent little skit, excellently acted.

CAMBERWELL PALACE.

An important position on the bill is held by Joe Elvin and company in the genuine laughter-maker, "Under Cross-examination." The piece is admirably staged, and it is quite impossible to remain without a smile at the very funny eccentricities of Mr. Elvin as William Nutt. He is the life and soul of the piece, and has a capital body of players to help him through. Walter Emerson, correctly styled the original six feet of comicality, is responsible for much hearty laughter. His song, "I think you'd better leave it where it is," is one which amuses beyond all doubt, and his method is worthy of praise.

A novelty is presented here by Miss Minnie Leslie and Miss M. Glier. They have an amusing duologue, with music specially written by Mr. Jack Thompson. Miss Leslie impersonates a nun anxious to escape from a convent and fly to the man she loves. Changing her dress to male attire she leaves by the window. Miss Leslie sings some excellent numbers with much taste, and at the conclusion is heartily applauded. The Olive Trio present an attractive juggling and acrobatic act. Their movements are extremely quick, and their whole performance is of great interest.

Miss Wish Wynne, a comedienne whose originality and cleverness have been recognised in both hemispheres, delights everyone in a couple of comedy creations; and Mr. Harry Ford creates much merriment in his songs of an inquisitive nature. His first contribution, "I'd like to know," is a worthy follower to his other well-known successes, and his other number, "Are you sure there's nothing else?" is a side-splitter. In this he appears as a none-too-prosperous grocer, and tells how he has to give away more than he sells. Miss Gwennie Hasto scores with "Any old place will do," and her eccentric dance is executed with neatness and precision. Jennie and Joe have an amusing flirting tit-bit, in which they appear with much success. Their dances are of an exceptional nature, and most cleverly performed. They are accorded a distinctly hearty reception.

Miss Hetty King, who is an artiste to the fingertips, has no difficulty whatever in holding the closest attention of the audience right through her performance. Every character she impersonates is lifelike. As the soldier, her bearing is extremely military; as the sailor, she is bright and breezy; and as the dude, she is quite an exquisite. Her numbers, "One of the nuts," "I'm one of the boys," and "Follow the tramlines," are rendered in her well-known dashing style.

WOOLWICH HIPPODROME.

This week marks the opening of a series of pantomimes here, and the energetic and genial manager, Mr. H. S. Perfect, has acted wisely in selecting "Babes in the Wood" to begin. Five pantomimes have been booked, and if the succeeding ones are equal to Messrs. Albert and Edmund's combination, then Woolwich is in for something good.

Mr. W. P. Thomas, as the Demon King Malignant, acts well and is the possessor of a fine baritone voice, which he uses to the utmost advantage. Prince Radiant is a charming person as enacted by Miss Madge Lester, a comely lady possessing splendid physique, who acts, sings and dances her way into favour. Her chief items are "Saturday afternoon till Monday morning," "My own Patricia," and in a duet with the Princess Dainty, charmingly played by Miss Kitty Corelli, "I wish you belonged to me." The latter lady gives some fine impersonations—viz., a baritone singing "I wonder if you miss me sometimes," a small child warbling "The pretty little girl from nowhere," and a coon singing "I want to be right down in Dixie." Dolly Daydream has a clever impersonator in Miss Louie Dacre, and her song and dance, "I do like you, Susie," went well. Mr. Teddy Denham is absolutely great as the Dame Trumble; his numbers, "The prettiest flower in the garden" and burlesque medley on rag-time, together with his dancing, are smart. Sir Bertie, the friend and adviser of the Prince, is well placed with Miss Violet Poole, and she scores with "Who were you with last night?" The King Wow-Wow of Mr. Jimmy Tray, and his page Pip, cleverly portrayed by Mr. Syd Kearns, provide some excellent fooling. Their Yiddish number, "Yoi, yoi!" goes like hot cakes. Clean, crisp and clever is the comedy of Miss Laura Newbury as the slavey, Molly Mildred.

The principal laughter-makers are undoubtedly Messrs. James Albert and Edmund Edmunds as the broker's men, Horatio Hardup and Sammy Slop, and roars of laughter greeted their efforts. The Babes, Reggie and Elsie, were cleverly enacted by Misses Ida and Jessie Reno; everything they did, they did well, whether acting, singing, or dancing. Their principal numbers were "The Turkey Trot," "Barney Flynn," each followed by clever dances, and a quartette with the Prince and Princess, "The land of I dunno where," and dance off. The chorus was well balanced and their singing well done. The special music is composed and arranged by Carl Hamlyn. The stage-management is in the capable and experienced hands of Mr. Harry Albert. The scenery and effects are everything that could be desired and the costumes gorgeous.

GRAND, CLAPHAM JUNCTION.

The turn of the Great Jupiters, with their American cowboy mystery, is interesting large audiences here. With the exception of two rows of puzzled committee men, lined up on either side, the stage is open and free in the centre. After the canvas of a bell-shaped tent is rigged up, one of the two performers is tightly bound and perched upon the top of an ordinary step-ladder. A sheet is then stretched across in front. It has three apertures: one for the man's head, and the other two for two mystic hands to be thrust through during the actual duration of the séance. These hands also appear at the top, near the dome of the tent, and they throw out flowers, fresh-smelling chrysanthemums, carnations, lilies, and the like, afterwards distributed amongst the audience. The turn was most lustily received by an enthusiastic audience on the night of our visit.

Jack and Evelyn are prime favourites here, and the happy twain scored in their latest vaudeville. Their song of "The glad eye," meaning many eyes—all there are, in fact—is a hit. The gaiety, frivolity, and fascination which govern this appreciative item gave way without a grudge to the philosophic Dora Lyric; indeed, the artiste met with a splendid reception, as did her moralising (and very true) songs, "When your luck is in, all is merry and bright," and "If you want to be a somebody you must bang on the drum." George Carney's "Fool of the Force" is a creation which seems to cheat Father Time and to escape getting old. It is as fresh as ever, and Mr. Carney is fresher. Victor Travers extracts genuine laughter by his droll antics and funny stories. To appreciate him one must hear him sing "There's nothing else to do" and witness his "leg" business.

As soon as he sets foot on the stage Mr. Mark Manners, a Hebrew entertainer, becomes a favourite. He is a raconteur with a racy, breezy style. Therefore, we should like to hear him in better yarns than the one or two American samples he offers. Miss Jenny Johns is a comedienne who bristles with energy, and she has a good voice, which she knows how to use, as was evidenced in the number, "Little Gwennie Morgan, the pride of Welsh Wales." The song is wedded to music much above the average, and the good reception accorded to it was justifiable. The same may be said of "The pierrot on the pier," a descriptive song artistically rendered. Messrs. Pete and Juno, coloured comedians and dancers, give a clever show in their light and humorsome way; and Miss Fanny Howard and Partner go through an acrobatic act nimbly, with a thrill now and again. The management of the house is in the hands of Mr. Fred C. Cockerill, with Mr. W. J. Fox as acting-manager, and Mr. H. E. Harris as musical-director.

THE EMPRESS.

One of the greatest successes of the evening here is Bert Coote's company in his evergreen sketch, "A Lamb on Wall-street." Everyone knows what this is all about, so [illegible] ourselves with saying that Bert Coote as [illegible]b" seems to get more fun out of his part each time we see him. He is ably supported by Mr. J. C. Aubrey and Miss Ada Russell. Miss Nellie Wallace, of low-comedy fame, although she is not exploiting anything new, is responsible for a couple of caricatures that are most acceptable. "I'm the early birdie" is particularly funny, and the verses of "Three cheers for the red, white, and blue" are interspersed with some capital patter. Described as the pierrot magicians, Fred Wilkinson and Miss Ruby Mayer exploit some clever tricks in a neat and finished manner, which leaves the audience wondering.

Arthur Lennard, in a couple of numbers, as heard with much pleasure. That popular craze "Rag-time," is satirised in the opening item, in which this capital comedian makes it clear that everything will have to yield to the prevailing craze. His second selection, entitled "Dreamland," contains funny political verses about Winston Churchill and Lloyd George. These fairly bring down the house. Ryder Slone has a droll song in "She's out at work all day and I'm out all night." The Five Petleys introduce some clever work into their turn, and the comedy merchant is a fine performer in a distinguished crowd. Miss Lallie Hall's pleasing and tuneful voice is heard to advantage in "Take me back to the garden of love.

Carter Livesey is giving a new song, "I've got a soft place in my head." Afterwards, with Miss Vita Spencer, he presents a sketch entitled "The Only Way Out," which treats of a husband's return home with the milk and his muddled explanation to the wife. It is an assured success from start to finish. Other items in the programme are Marie Pera and company in the well-known comedy sketch, entitled "Two doors and a passage," and the Bioscope, with a series of topical films. The management of the house is well looked after by the popular Mr. Nelson Francis.

The directors of the Tivoli (Aberdeen), Ltd., have declared an interim dividend on the ordinary shares at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, free of income tax.

PLAYS AT THE HALLS.

BRANSGROVE AND SLAUGHTER'S ENTERPRISES.

An innovation at the halls recently has been the production of well-known plays originally seen at the West-End theatres; and that patrons appreciate this pleasing variant to vaudeville is evidenced by the decided success of the experiment at many of the leading London variety houses.

But the plays must be well staged and acted. Comparison is bound to be made with the original representation, as many of the audience are renewing acquaintance with a play that has made a special appeal to them.

It will be remembered that Mr. Charles Gulliver, the enterprising managing-director of the Palladium, started the experiment of presenting plays in the afternoon at that house in October last. The initial piece was F. Anstey's supernatural farce, "The Brass Bottle," and it was "presented" by Sydney Bransgrove and N. C. Slaughter, the pioneers in the production of modern plays in the halls, who engaged a capital company, with two, at least, of the original cast.

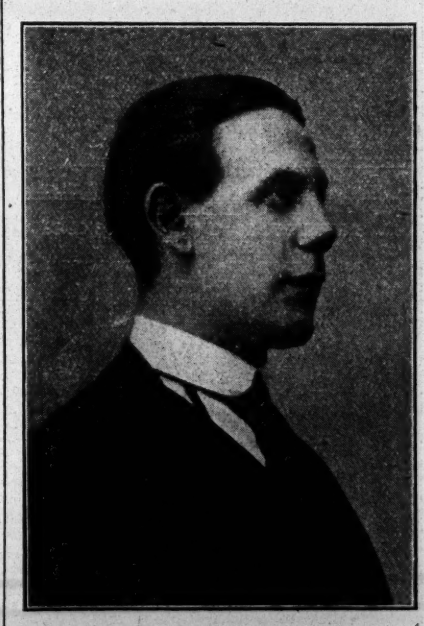
MR. SYDNEY BRANSGROVE.

Since then other popular pieces have been given with success at the Argyle-place palace under their direction, the entire productions being excellent replicas of the originals.

That all sorts and conditions of plays are palatable to a music hall public is proved by the varying list of successes produced by Messrs. Bransgrove and Slaughter since August Bank Holiday last. They include that always popular farce, "Jane," "Caste," "The Importance of Being Earnest," "The Education of Elizabeth," "A Pair of Spectacles," "Mrs. Gorringe's Necklace," "The Flag Lieutenant," "Inconstant George," "Betsy," "Facing the Music," "The Brass Bottle," and "The Night of the Party."

"All these have been singularly successful," remarked Mr. Slaughter to an "Era" representative, "especially 'Jane,' now in its twenty-third week of tour, 'The Speckled Band,' 'The Flag Lieutenant,' 'The Night of the Party,' and 'The Brass Bottle.' All the last-named were played, as you know, for a series of matinées at the Palladium.

"Speaking of the Palladium reminds me that we have just negotiated a very big entertainment with Mr. Charles Gulliver, the managing-director of the London Theatres of Varieties. We have arranged for Mr. Matheson Lang and Miss Hutin Britton to open there in February for a series of matinées with his latest and big spectacular play, 'Westward Ho!' a piece that gained an



MR. N. C. SLAUGHTER.

immense amount of popularity during Mr. Lang's South African tour. Written by Miss Peggy Webling, and founded on characters and incidents in Charles Kingsley's story, this play was produced by the popular actor and his wife in Johannesburg in November last, and its many striking incidents and picturesque setting and mounting should make it a very alluring play that will appeal to all.

"We are also sending out one or two pieces into the provinces this year, chief of these being 'Doormats,' Hubert Henry Davies' delightful comedy, which is now playing to splendid business at Wyndham's; and 'Looking for Trouble,' from the Aldwych. In addition to these plays we work a considerable number of sketches, and altogether the year that has just dawned gives promise of keeping us exceptionally busy.

"An interesting conclusion to the visit of 'The Flag Lieutenant' to the Richmond Hippodrome, where the piece broke all records, was the official visit of the Mayor of Richmond and the members of the Corporation. At the end of the piece the audience called for the author, and Mr. Trevor, who happened to be in the theatre, had to stand up and make a short speech.

"A great amount of our success is, I am sure, due to the way we put our shows on. We pay particular attention to the dressing and staging of the plays, a matter to which I think too little care is given nowadays. The stage and production work is my department, while my partner, Mr. Bransgrove, attends to the booking and business side. Our premises at 242-4, High Holborn, include offices, a big rehearsal room, and waiting room."

THE METROPOLITAN.

The introduction into the programme here of no fewer than four sketches, in which are found the elements of comedy and tragedy, has met with the approval of Mr. William Bailey's audiences, which are largely drawn from the neighbouring village of Paddington. The first of the dramatic trifles is entitled,

"SUNDAY MORNING."

Bill ..... Mr. Stanley Turnbull
Little Bill ..... Miss Irene Ross
Captain Jane ..... Miss Mary Forbes

The burglar at home is not the same cautious person as when abroad; and Bill, the burly one, in Mr. Stanley Cooke's sketch, "Sunday Morning," produced on Monday at the Metropolitan, lets a Salvation lass and a youngster get the bulge on him. The lady calls at Bill's residence on Sunday morning, and in walking round the garret she sees and quietly annexes a miniature stolen by him during one of his crib-cracking exploits. A reward of £500 has been offered, and, needless to say, the mere woman means to secure it. The burglar produces a revolver, but when the click is heard the "barking iron" produces a fan. Bill is eventually held up by his son with a real revolver, and the pair leave him, the girl telling him that if he goes down to a certain docks he will get money to go to South America. The process of fooling the cracksman is one that bristles with opportunities for the display of grim humour with a certain amount of sentiment underlying it. Of these opportunities Miss Mary Forbes, an actress who has done excellent dramatic work, and Mr. Stanley Turnbull, who was so good in "The House of Temperley" at the Adelphi, take full advantage; and Miss Irene Ross plays the boy very capably.

Quite on different lines is the Chinese-American tragedietta,

"THE BIG JOSS."

Tong-Li ..... Mr. George Pickett
Ah-Lun ..... Mr. Lawrence Osborne
"One-Gun" Dawson .... Mr. A. Gordon Laws
"Quiet" Hooker ..... Mr. Jack Vyvyan
Xymena ..... Miss Violet Campbell

Since the production of "The Cat and the Cherub" at the Lyric, some fifteen years since, the heathen Chinee, when introduced into drama, has almost invariably presaged gruesomeness, and the latest stage exposition of the hidden ways of the Celestial, by Francis Annesley, entitled "The Big Joss," lacks nothing in this respect. It is gripping the attention of Metropolitan audiences this week by its story of a Wild West vendetta and swift retribution. Tong-Li, the Chinese keeper of a Californian liquor store much frequented by diggers and claim-owners during the gold rush of 1849, has installed in his saloon a large cabinet, which conceals "the big joss," an object of adoration. The figure wears expensive jewels, and this fact excites the cupidity of two American scoundrels, Bill Dawson and James Booker, wanted for murder, and for whose apprehension a reward is offered. Xymena, who has Spanish blood in her veins, and plays the guitar about the mining camps, visits Tong-Li's store, and is found there by the pair of villains. Xymena carries a knife, the very same that Bill Dawson drove into her brother's heart when the latter sought revenge for a younger sister's dishonour. She attempts to stab Dawson in the back, but is shot in the right wrist by his companion. Challenging the desperado to a left-handed knife duel, she faints from pain. But the business of the precious pair is to steal the jewels that ornament the joss. Bill Dawson is in the act of doing this when Tong-Li springs out from behind the figure and strangles the would-be thief. As Dawson falls dead, the door opens, and the body of Booker is dragged across the threshold of the liquor store by another Chinaman, who has made a pretence of sleep, and, escaping the vigilance of the thieves and murderers, settles accounts with a revolver shot. The piece is capitally played by Miss Mary Mayfren's company, which includes Mr. George Pickett, who represents with much cleverness the inscrutable Tong-Li, and Miss Violet Campbell, a handsome and powerfully dramatic Xymena. The thieves are also well represented by Mr. A. Gordon Laws and Mr. Jack Vyvyan.

Mr. Joe Peterman's "Fox Hunt" is merely a series of lively choruses—somewhat roughly rendered, by the way—and capital dances. Mr. Max Martina as the "fox" is a wonderful pirouettist, and Miss Molly Geary a particularly graceful performer as the mistress of the hounds. The name of the gentleman who "borrows" from the Empire revue Mr. Robert Hale's business with a hobby horse and a dummy pack of hounds attached thereto is not disclosed. Mr. George Barrett and Co. present the farcical episode, "Two Flats." The "Co." includes a handsome girl, whose well-filled stockings are displayed with disconcerting freedom.

The variety portion of the bill has a popular contributor in Herbert Rule, who "discovers" a gentleman in the audience to assist him in spelling "Woolloomooloo," and Mr. John Macauley makes a decidedly favourable impression in his impersonation of the old soldier, and in his final recitation. The Seven Perezoffs, fine comedy jugglers, add to the charm of their business by presenting it in a restaurant scene; and other turns on the bill are Vera Saunders and Armon and Armon, Australia's refined comedy instrumentalists.

A musical and dancing mélange, brimful of novelties, is to be seen at the Hammersmith Palace on Monday next. In this charming new production "The Three Talents," Vera Sylvia, Gertie and Leonard Rubenstein, will be seen in their clever and original juvenile speciality act entitled, "After the Ball."

In the popular Alhambra revue, "Kill That Fly," one of the enjoyable interludes is the mimicry of Miss Mamie Buck. This clever young comedienne has now added to her extensive repertoire some exceedingly apt reproductions of the methods of Connie Ediss, as well as an additional imitation of Miss Gertie Millar.

Quite a romance is associated with Miss Nora Delaney, who fills the rôle of Aladdin with much artistic grace at Kennington Theatre pantomime this year. Four years ago she was a telephone operator in Manchester, having occupied that position for two or three years. She, however, had aspirations towards the stage, and suddenly decided to run away from home. She came to London and secured, through Mr. John Hart, a position in a Croydon pantomime. She immediately gave evidence of the possession of considerable talent, and from that point onwards her success was assured.

Three years ago Miss Delaney had a part in the Sunderland pantomime, and last year made her first appearance in London proper as second boy at the Marlborough Theatre. This year saw her début as principal boy at Kennington. She plays Aladdin in a spirit of boyish ingenuousness, which has won all hearts, and sings excellently.

The O.P. Club paid Nora the compliment of making Kennington the first pantomime which they visited this year, and gave her a tremendous reception on Friday night. Miss Delaney, who is the wife of Mr. McLaughlan, one of the Stoll staff, is known on the halls as "The girl in the uniforms." She pays a return visit to the Palace Theatre in March, and next year is booked to appear at the Pavilion and Tivoli for long runs.

AMUSEMENTS IN SOUTH AFRICA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENTS.)

CAPE TOWN, Dec. 16.—OPERA HOUSE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Leonard Rayne.—Great interest has been taken in the production of a new play, "Love's Reward," by a local author. The production was in the hands of an experienced actor, Mr. Chas. Willoughby. Next week Mr. Stephen Black's company make a return visit for twelve nights.

TIVOLI.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Harry Stodel.—Last night some new artistes arrived by the mail. Mark Anton, in his illustrations of the eccentricities of famous musicians, is capital. The clever ventriloquist, Fred Russell, is loudly applauded. Violet Trevenyon sings prettily, and has a "chic" stage appearance, and the pictures are all interesting.

GRAND.—Business runs well at this popular house. The latest comer is (to quote the programme) "America's greatest comedy juggler," "General" Edward Lavine, who at once earned a well-deserved success. Miss Ella Moore, the dandy coon, and James Loft both made hits in their songs, and the Bioscope pictures are all good.

JOHANNESBURG, Dec. 9. — HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler, Ltd.—"The Girl from Springfontein," the first South African musical comedy (book by Lewis Rose Macleod, music by H. Barlow Coulthard) is running merrily at His Majesty's, and excellent houses gather nightly. The comedy is brightly written and the music is tuneful and good. The acting is excellent, splendid work being done by Mesdames Beatrice Meredith, Betty Shale, and Daisy Wallace, and Messrs. Laurence Legge, Myles Clifton, W. F. White, Donald Campbell, Hugh Kennedy, Wilton Dougherty, and Tom Payne.

STANDARD THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. Leonard Rayne; Manager, Mr. Grant Fallowes.—"The Sign of the Cross" was produced last Monday night, and has played to excellent houses. Mr. Edward Vincent, who is well known throughout South Africa as a remarkably fine actor and elocutionist, made a noble Marcus Superbus, and his interpretation of the part was all that could be desired. Next in order of merit came Miss Eva Moss as Berenice and Miss Freda Godfrey as Mercia, and special mention must be made of Mesdames Dora Nazeby (Poppea), Mona O'Dowd (Dacia), and Adele Fillis (Stephanus), and Messrs. E. Burton Seymour (Nero), Malcolm Tearle (Tigellinus), Wallace Court (Licinius), and Harry C. Paine (Glabrio).

EMPIRE.—An all-star company holds the boards at the Empire to-night. Commencing with La Pia and the Six Palace Girls we have the Surf Bathers, the Phillips Sisters, duettists and dancers; Marie Wilton, soubrette; Great and Good, comedy tumblers; Sterling and Love, in "Harmony and Discord"; Helm and Cozens, sketch duo; the Grays, speciality act; and Miss Marie Courtney, comedienne.

Mr. H. B. Irving and company open at His Majesty's on Boxing Night with "The Lyons Mail."

JOHANNESBURG, Dec. 16.—HIS MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Lessees, Messrs. B. and F. Wheeler, Ltd.—"The Girl from Springfontein" concluded a most successful three weeks' run on Saturday night. This, the last week of the company, is devoted to a series of revivals, "The Chocolate Soldier," "Peggy," and "The Quaker Girl." On Boxing Night Mr. H. B. Irving opens with "The Lyons Mail," an event which is being eagerly looked forward to.

STANDARD THEATRE.—Mr. Leonard Rayne's Season.—Manager, Mr. Edward Vincent. "The Sign of the Cross" gave way on Friday night to "East Lynne." Mr. W. G. Court is Archibald Carlyle, Mr. Malcolm Tearle Francis Levison, and Miss Eva Moss is the unfortunate wife. Excellent houses have witnessed the production.

EMPIRE.—La Pia, the enchantress, the Surf Bathers, the Palace Girls, Madge Temple, and other stars hold dominion over the Empire boards. No wonder that business has been phenomenal.

BIJOU.—Manager, Mr. E. R. Gourdeau.—The Stavordales, in "Voices on Strings," and Harry Williams were the artistes at this popular picture palace last week. A fine range of films—Pathé, Kalem, Essanay, Vitagraph—were shown in addition.

ORPHEUM.—Manager, Mr. E. D. Martin.—Orpheus, in "The Hall of Music," was the star turn last week. As usual, some fine pictures were shown.

DURBAN.—CRITERION THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. F. G. Tucker.—The principal attraction here this week is the Bros. Hannaway comedians and dancers, who are much appreciated. Gertie Lanner, well known locally, sang three songs which went well, and the comedy duo supplied by Della and Pley caught on.

HALL BY THE SEA.—Managing-Director, Edgar M. Hyman.—Recent attractions here have been a capital and classical act, supplied by Signorina Maria La Bella, a charming Spanish dancer, supported by a clever company; Vi Trevenyon, comedienne, who has been admired by all in her latest tuneful melodies; Harry Marte, comedian and dancer, who is very popular; Miss May de Sousa, whose turn was most enjoyable; Bryan O'Sullivan, whose fine baritone was much admired; and Eunice and Zena, instrumentalists, who won a double encore each evening.

Guy and Grahame (Cholly and Dolly), "The two Johnnies," who have made such rapid strides on the halls, their experience only dating back a few months, were, during their engagement at the Holborn Empire last week, called upon to deputise for Jack and Evelyn on Wednesday night at the Palladium, and on Friday and Saturday for Mr. Joe Elvin at the Islington Empire. They are at the Empire, Chatham, this week.

Miss Melinda May announces that this year's ball, in aid of the funds of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild, to be held at the Empire Rooms, Trocadero Restaurant, on Sunday, Feb. 2, will be supported by the Committee of the Variety Artistes' Federation and will be under the patronage of Mr. Henry Tozer, Mr. Joseph Davis, Mr. Arthur Aldin, Messrs. Charlot and Leveaux, Mr. Percy Broadhead, Mr. Herbert Blackmore, Mr. Harry Burns, Mr. Joe Collins and Som[illegible]and Masters.

Prizes for the best, most original, effective, and comical costumes will be given by Raynes, White Brothers, the Hackney Furnishing Co., and members of the Music Hall Ladies' Guild Committee. Mr. Frank Glenister, Mr. Blyth-Pratt, and Mr. Joseph Wilson will have no easy task as judges. Miss Marie Lloyd has graciously consented to present the prizes.

Mr. Frank Marshall is enthusiastic as regards the future of Southend, especially as a winter resort, and in a letter to a local journal endeavours to wake up the authorities to the advantages of booming the place. He suggests demolishing the present pavilion on the Pier and building in its place a concert hall right up to date. What other seaside resorts can do Southend can do. He adds: "The theatre has now the pick of the touring companies and the best of plays. The Hippodrome, under an experienced manager like Mr. W. H. Lennon, has most excellent turns and dramatic fare put on by the best English chiefs. The New Palace, at Westcliff, cannot be beaten out of London. Here is a sumptuous theatre with good-class entertainment at marvellously cheap prices. Mr. G. H. Mortimer is a past-master in managing, and the principal picture palaces are all well worth a visit—and more than one visit."

DON'T LET THE OPPOSITION BEAT YOU

Show New Century :: Exclusives. :: Full particulars from 2 & 4, Quebec Street, Leeds, and 48, Rupert Street, :: London, W. ::

FILM GOSSIP.

"A Sad Devil."

Produced by Colin Campbell, the Selig Polyscope Co. release on Jan. 16 a capital comedy, excellently acted, in "A sad devil," the mischief boy's study at school. Tom, Dick, and Harry, a trio of College chums, spend their leisure time in framing up jokes upon each other. Dick and Tom have been reprimanded by the head of the institution for tardiness, so they buy an extra large alarm clock in order to prevent any repetition of a trouble that may lead to their expulsion. In order to see them move three hours earlier than their scheduled time, Harry sets the alarm and lies abed to laugh as the other boys scramble into their clothes and rush hastily out into the wee hours of the morning to get breakfast that does not materialise for a long time. They soon determine that Harry is the responsible party for their early discomfiture, and retaliate by sending him a letter from his sweetheart, enclosing an invitation to a masquerade ball, and instructing him to dress as Mephistopheles. Harry takes the invitation in earnest, and, at the chosen hour and place, finds himself face to face with the president of the college, who emphatically disapproves of his devil's disguise. He beats a hasty retreat, and on his way back to his room has a series of desperate and embarrassing experiences. 1,033ft.

"Scenes in New Zealand."

A very interesting scenic film, notable for the excellence of the photography and the variety of the views shown, is "Scenes in New Zealand," released by Kineto, Ltd., on Jan. 18. The opening sections are devoted to some interesting pictures of native life and customs, including the peculiar Maori dances. Portraits of native women are also given. Some remarkable photographs of the geysers follow, showing the springs in full action. Nothing more spectacular could be imagined than these pillars of boiling foam, rising often 90 or 100ft. in the air and then falling back into the depths, only to burst forth again in a moment, their pure-white shape clearly outlined against the background of the sky. Hot-water baths being much enjoyed by the natives, children are shown standing neck-deep in the warm water of some of the enclosed springs. Other springs are utilised for washing clothes and cooking food. Some beautiful pictures of surf-bathing conclude. 530ft.

An Historic Theatre's Transformation.

Mr. Ralph Pringle, the well-known vaudeville and cinema manager, has erected on the site of the old Princess Theatre, Edinburgh—a house with great and historic associations, the lessee of which was Scotland's famous Rob Roy, Mr. A. D. M'Neill—a handsome electric theatre. The scheme of decoration is white and pale blue, and not a pillar obscures the view. The proscenium is very ornate, and the screen one of the latest and best. The managerial note is order throughout, and patrons will find all essentials to success are being scrupulously looked after so far as La Scala—the name selected—is concerned. Mr. Tom Robertson is the manager.

New Electric Theatre, Dundee.

Mr. Arthur Howard, the genial general-manager of this fine house, has a trump card this week in "Kiddie's Xmas pantomime," which proves of special interest to the younger portion of the audience. Other leading features are a fascinating detective drama, "The sketch with the thumb-print," and a stirring drama, "Painted lady."

Public Hall Cinema, Aberavon.

A new cinema, known as the Public Hall Cinema, Aberavon, was opened at the above town last week. The Public Hall has been improved, and a most comfortable house of entertainment is the result. The machine is a Pathé, and, under the capable hands of Operator Hammond, the pictures are all that could be desired. The undertaking is owned and managed by Mr. J. J. Mathias, and he is to be congratulated on his enterprise, which had full houses all last week. One house nightly is the rule of the week, excepting Saturday, when there are two houses. "The money kings" was the star film for the opening week.

Electric Picture Palace, Limerick.

The Rink Picture Palace at Wellesley-place opened its pictorial season this week with large and appreciative audiences. Pathé's Animated Gazette of topical events is once again favoured by many advocates of fashion and race-meetings, whilst a film entitled "Two battles" was much appreciated. The turn is supplied by Messrs. Arthur Max and Fred Mozelle in a comic sketch, "The Lieutenant and Corporal Slippery," which was well received. Mr. W. J. Potts is the clever operator again for the New Year, and Miss Mai O'Connor has secured fresh laurels for her delightful musical titbits.

Film Censor for Manchester.

Mr. L. Davenport, resident-manager of the Regent Opera House, Salford, for the last two years, vacates that position this month, as he has accepted the appointment of Censor of Films for Manchester, Salford, and District.

Salford Ordsall Picture Theatre.

The excellence of the fare provided at this commodious house continues to draw well, and there is often some difficulty in finding accommodation for the large audiences. This week's pictures include "The broken sword" and "Monte Cristo." Twice nightly, and matinées Monday and Thursday.

Leicester Picture Houses.

At the Leicester Picture House splendid business is being done, the programmes submitted embracing everything that is new. This week's best films include the "Rugby International," "The loyalty of Sylvia," "Tricked by smugglers," "Aladdin up to date," and "His auto's maiden trip."

At the Floral Hall Picture Theatre "The loyalty of Sylvia," "The usurper's grip," "A reformed Santa Claus," "A young terror," "Aladdin up to date," &c. Business here is also great.

Mr. Springett, the new resident-manager at the Grand Electric Palace, is in the favourable position of doing record business. The films here are always kept up to the highest standard, the chief ones this week being "O Komo San" (beautifully coloured), "A girl's bravery," "Conductor 786," "Subterfuge," "A love test," "The red barrier," and "Bill Wilson's gal."

New Gallery Kinema.

An army of workmen is busily engaged day and night completing the erection of the New Gallery Kinema in Regent-street, which is to be opened by Sir George and Lady Alexander on Jan. 14. The building, which has been erected on a site comprising over 14,500 super feet, which has not been disturbed for the past 400 years, is said to be the most ambitious in the United Kingdom. It embraces, in addition to a sumptuous picture house, a brasserie and tea-room. Both the latter have their distinctive colour schemes and decoration. The brasserie will form a baronial hall of the Tudor period, whilst the tea-rooms are built in the Adam style. The scheme of decoration for the theatre is appropriately Georgian in general effect, and will accommodate about 1,000 persons seated in the stalls and balcony, which is built on the Cantilever system. The first day's proceeds will be devoted to the League of Mercy, of which Order the patron is his Majesty the King.

New Picture Hall at Low Spennymoor.

The Durham County Picture Hall Co. opened their new Empire, situated at Low Spennymoor, last week. A very attractive programme was given, whilst a special orchestra marked the opening proceedings. The building is designed to satisfy the requirements of the most fastidious, and is both commodious and handsome in appearance, the ventilation and heating appliances being of the best. For the lighting six large chandeliers are used, whilst at the sides several beautiful brackets furnished with ruby-coloured globes are in evidence, and match the colouring of the wall decorations and seating. The seating accommodation is all that can be desired; the floor area is covered with thick cork carpeting, thus securing perfect quietness. The electric lantern is of the rock steady principle, the pictures being absolutely free from flickerings. An electric generator controls the power from the mains, and a cross-over switch is also provided, so that if anything goes wrong with the machine the current can immediately be dealt with. The proscenium is artistically designed, whilst the screen itself is 22ft. square, thus enabling the largest picture to be thrown upon it. The building is 90ft. long and 45ft. wide, with a seating capacity of about 700 persons. Large attendances were the rule during the first week, and it is quite evident the Empire is already established as a favourite resort. The operator is Mr. Albert Schofield, late of the Armley Pavilion, Leeds, and the manager to the company is Mr. Jas. Wright, of Low Spennymoor, the musical-director being Mr. Thomas Smith, of Ferryhill.

AN OPERATOR'S HANDBOOK.

The well-known cinema experts, Messrs. W. Butcher and Sons, Ltd., of Camera House, Farringdon-avenue, E.C., have just issued an operators' handbook, in which detailed instructions for the use of "The Silent Empire" machine—a speciality of Messrs. Butcher and Sons—are given in careful and thoroughly comprehensible manner. Several illustrations accompany the reading matter, still further to facilitate a complete knowledge of their popular machine. Operators using the Silent Empire will find the handbook indispensable. Messrs. W. Butcher and Sons, Ltd., have also just prepared a tastefully arranged booklet, setting forth the latest improvements associated with "The Silent Empire," together with an up-to-date and interesting price list.

Mr. Handel Lancaster, the accomplished and popular leader of the orchestra at the Grand Theatre, Falkirk, has had another of the many manifestations of the high regard in which he is held by the band and the habitués of the theatre. He was presented last Friday with a silver-mounted bâton for himself and a gold-mounted umbrella for his wife. The gifts were handed over by Mr. Jas. Downie, on behalf of the subscribers, and an enjoyable social hour or two were spent. As indicative of the kindly relations existing between Mr. Lancaster and the members of the orchestra, it might be stated that on Christmas Eve the band were hospitably entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Lancaster at their residence.

KINEMACOLOR PANTOMIME.

"Santa Claus," the Kinemacolor pantomime at the Scala Theatre, considerably condensed and revised, now plays more closely, and thus enables Mr. Urban to restore to the programme, by general request, the salient features of his two great films, "The Delhi Durbar" and "The Panama Canal," both of which are to be found in the present bill. The new edition of the delightful Kinemacolor pantomime, in which are so skilfully blended moving pictures and real acting, proves a most enjoyable and unique entertainment. There is not a dull moment from the time when dainty little Ting-a-ling, the Spirit of Yuletide, accompanies Father Christmas to his extraordinary toy emporium at the roots of the Christmas tree, till their labour of love is finished, and all the little children on earth have been supplied with toys. The pictures of the couple journeying through the clouds and chasing the earth in a reindeer-sledge, create great wonderment and applause, and all the other scenes, both acted and screened, are capitally managed. A duet between a tom-cat and a tabby-cat, and a pretty serenade to the man in the moon by a couple of most alluring and sweet-voiced sweeps are vocal contributions that add to the enjoyment of the pantomime, as do also the dancing and singing of a number of youngsters. Mr. Leedham Bantock is a capital Father Christmas, introducing one or two topical allusions that appeal especially to the grown-ups, and Miss Favronowra is a sprightly and dainty little Ting-a-ling. Preceding, a really clever little concert party, in sentimental, humorous, and excellently-worked concerted numbers, give an enterprising interlude.

Balkan War in Kinemacolor.

On Monday evening next Mr. Charles Urban will present at the Scala Theatre for the first time his remarkable Kinemacolor record of the struggle between the forces of "the Crescent and the Cross" in the Balkans, taken practically from the time of the first act of aggression by the Montenegrins. Both in the Boer and the Russo-Japanese Wars great things were achieved by the Urban cameras, but the application of the Kinemacolor process to the recent rapid succession of events in "The tinder-box of Europe" surpasses all previous attainments. Early in the conflict Mr. Urban secured the valuable co-operation of that distinguished war correspondent, Mr. Frederic Villiers, who virtually directed the operations of the Kinemacolor cameras on most of the battlefields. Mr. Villiers has now consented to give a few explanatory remarks at the reproduction of the stirring and informative films—an asset of considerable importance to the full success of the exhibition.

AMUSEMENTS IN AUSTRALIA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

MELBOURNE, Dec. 2.—PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—Sole Proprietors, George Marlow, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. Stanley Grant.—"The King's Romance" was produced here for the first time on Saturday evening, and drew a crowded house. The acting of the principals, Mr. Hugh Buckler and Miss Violet Paget, leaves little to be desired. The King is a picturesque figure, and Miss Violet Paget makes a most graceful heroine. Mr. Kenneth Brampton plays the villain on good lines, and Mr. W. R. Hunter is satisfactory as a revolutionary fanatic. Mr. D. Kelway is convincing as Bartoy, the Prince's Major Domo, and a couple of Ministers of State are played with due impressiveness by Mr. Charles Lawrence and Mr. Charles Keegan. Several other performers, including Miss Elwyn Harvey, are deserving of a word of praise. The Betrothal scene in the Palace is most effective, and the scene in the Curé's garden in the first act called forth loud applause.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Direction, J. C. Williamson, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. E. J. Tait.—"Nightbirds" are still disseminating gaiety from this popular theatre. There was a large and boisterously appreciative house on Saturday evening. The last thirteen nights are now announced.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Direction, J. C. Williamson, Ltd.; Business-Manager, Mr. G. H. Smith.—"Get-Rich-Quick Wallingford" has proved a great success. The large house that assembled in the theatre on Saturday evening found it laughable and interesting right through.

RICKARDS' OPERA HOUSE.—Personal Direction, Mr. Hugh D. McIntosh; Business Manager, Mr. Frederic Aydon.—Before a large audience on Saturday night Crawford and Howard, comedy sketch artistes, provided a new turn, in which the readjustment of differences of temperaments on the part of a married couple were illustrated. It caused much laughter. Miss Florence Baines, whose season will close in a few nights, was again successful in entertaining by her songs and impersonations. Miss Claire Romaine's contributions were received with appreciation, and Mr. Alberto Marini's singing was a bright feature in a programme of variety and length. Vaude and Verne, the popular witty dialogue and singing team, received a welcome on their return. Mlle. Margo and M. Mozetto also resumed their acquaintance with the audience.

A capital programme was given at the Gaiety Theatre on Saturday night, when Hassan, the Indian fakir, Pedrini, equilibrist, and La France, in art poses, were among the chief contributors. Herbert Clifton, the singer and female impersonator, Morris and Shand, comedy acrobats, and Nellie Searle, serio, also added to the general enjoyment.

The film showing the dramatisation of Wilkie Collins' novel, "The Woman in White," was applauded at Spencer's Theatre on Saturday night. "Alone in New York" was another popular subject screened.

Washington Irving's legend of Sleepy Hollow, "Rip Van Winkle," was pictorially retold on Saturday night to a full house at West's Picture Palace. The success of the film is much enhanced by the tuneful rendering by West's orchestra of excerpts from Planquette's opera of the same name.

A Copy of "The Era" will be forwarded to any address in the United Kingdom for six stamps.

PROVINCIAL THEATRICALS.

(*Continued from page 9*).

PLYMOUTH.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Acting-Manager, Mr. Allan Attwater.—This week: Mr. Tom B. Davis (London), in conjunction with Messrs. Leslie Moreton and Guyton Heath present "Jack and Jill." The company includes: Miss Connie Emerald, Miss Daisy West-Collins, Mr. Walter Dowling, Mr. Bert Monks, Miss Rosalind Chard, Mr. Ernest French, the Sisters Holman, Miss Winsome Drummond, Mr. Frederic Le Maitre, Mr. A. H. Reid, Miss Margaret Lynhart, Miss Evelyn Tyser, Mr. Sam Leo, and the Creo Brothers.

GRAND THEATRE.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. Langdon Lee.—This week: Mr. Percy Williams' company in "The Fatal Wedding." The company includes: Mr. Frank Liston, Mr. Gerald Kennedy, Mr. Harry M. Vernon, Mr. J. K. Woods, Mr. Frank Ashley, Mr. J. Newton, Miss Maud Warburton, Miss Beatrice Shirley, Miss Blanche Huber, Baby Marjorie Aubrey, Master Leonard Wricks, Miss Edith Dews, Miss Hilda May, Miss Daisy Trenchard, and Master Tom Grice. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.30. Next week: "What Happened to Jones."

PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. G. F. Thompson.—This week: Tom Edwards, the huntsman ventriloquist; Victor Kelly, comedian; the Seven Bramusas, in brass band extravaganza, "Music Afloat"; Harry Knox, comedian; Conway and Leland, eccentric acrobats; the Two Albions, duettists and dancers; Dion Wade, comedian and mimic; Charlie Bell and company, in novel absurdity, "That Demon Photographer."

PONTEFRACT.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. George Tankard.—This week (once nightly): Messrs. H. Montague Ashley and Campbell Goldsmid present "With Edged Tools." The company includes: Mr. Harold Neville, Mr. Fred Emery, Mr. Murray Yorke, Mr. Max Copland, Mr. Alfred Conway, Mr. George Brough, Mr. Campbell Goldsmid, Miss Pattie Groves, Miss Muriel Haydn, Miss Edith Anton-Lairg, and Miss Maud Morton-Powell. Touring-manager, Mr. H. Montague Ashley.

PONTYPRIDD.

WHITE PALACE. — Proprietors, The White Palaces, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Albert R. Josty.—This week: Miss Gladys Morgan, vocalist; and pictures.

PORTH.

PALACE THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. W. Smithson; Manager, Mr. J. W. Bynorth; Musical-Director, Mr. Geo. Stephens.—This week: Mr. Ernest Abbott's company in "Sins of the Rich" and "Sapho." The artistes include: Messrs. Ed. Keene, John Johnstone, Phil Layton, Athol Douglass, W. H. Brown, and Ernest Abbott; and Misses Agnes Kingston, Winifred Rutland, Annie Morgan, Mattie Everett, Cecile Rene, Nellie Crouther, and Ada Abbott.

PORTSMOUTH.

ROYAL.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur A. Horner.—A second visit to Mr. Elliston's pantomime, "Jack and Jill" finds the show going with greater brightness and vivacity than even. All the artistes have settled down to their parts, and from start to finish merriment reigns supreme. The comedians, Messrs. Arthur Anarto, Lawrence Anarto, Austin Jerome, and Syd Lester, with their gags and funny business, amuse both old and young. Misses Lily Leonhard and Indiana Lindsay in the title-rôles sing and act so as to deserve the hearty applause which greets them; likewise do the second principal boy and girl, the Misses Gertrude Corneille and Phyllis Melville. The vocal element has its chief exponents in the Fairy Queen (Miss Edna Lyall) and the Demon (Mr. Graham King). The Three Buckleys attract attention with their expert club manipulation; and other attractive specialities are Mr. J. Collins's sextette of dancers. The picturesque scenery and pretty music reflect the highest credit on the stage-manager and producer, Mr. W. H. Howarth, and the conductor, Mr. F. R. Wyatt.

KING'S.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton; Acting-Manager, Mr. Arthur R. Hollands.—One of the strongest programmes submitted here includes Aurora and her lion, horse, and dog; the Okabe Family, who perform marvellous acrobatic feats with marked celerity; George Tawde and Eva McRoberts, in Scotch comedy sketch, "Elders' Hours"; a graceful exhibition of dancing by Lily Lenora and Emile Récat; Hanvarr and Lee, in their well-known juggling and Indian club turn; a daring aerial act by the Neslos; a fine musical act by the Four Gardiners; some cultured singing by Spencer Ward and his charming partner, Gertrude Clarke; and coon songs and dances by Harry Raymond and his daughter Ivy.

NEW PRINCE'S, LANDPORT.—Licensee and Manager, Mr. J. W. Boughton.—The romantic drama. "The Wild Girl of the Forest," is finely presented by Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's company, and was enthusiastically received. It deals with the romance of Maritza, the wild girl, and Ioris, Prince of Floralia, in which parts the efforts of Miss Nana Flensburg and Mr. J. D. Riley are fully appreciated. Messrs. G. E. Butler and J. D. Bosher, and the Misses Winnie Braemer and Dulcie Lawrence act admirably.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. George Harris.—To a highly appreciative audience, Messrs. Dottridge and Longden are this week presenting their gorgeous and artistic pantomime, "Dick Whittington and His Cat." The famous Dick has an excellent representative in Miss Hetty Zillwood, while the remarkable agility of Mr. James Rallis makes him a first-class Cat; the pompous Alderman Fitzwarren is amusingly portrayed by Mr. Arthur Holland; and the Emperor is in the capable hands of Mr. Frank Melville; both gentlemen know how to use their voices harmoniously. Another clever comedian is Mr. Tom Drent as Jack; and the efforts of Mr. Albert Williams and Miss Doylet Gibson are successful. Tuneful music and pretty songs are melodiously rendered.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Managing-Director, Captain E. H. Warren-Wright; Secretary, Mr. W. Pratt.—The inimitable Arthur Watson, who is assisted by Miss Flo Stanley, are highly diverting in a musical comedy skit, entitled "Sprouts." On the rag-time wave come Jack Egan and the Co-la Girls, with the latest jokes and wooden shoe dancing; Miss Louie Tracey makes a capital male impersonator. The programme also includes: The Lipinskis, talented juvenile vocalists; the Victor Brothers, in clever hand-balancing; and Arthur Harris; Connie Mascot; and Henry Hilton.

CLARENCE PIER.—Manager and Secretary, Mr. W. Cuddy.—Large audiences patronised last Saturday's concerts both afternoon and evening, and enjoyed the singing of Miss Mostyn, the possessor of a rich contralto, and an old favourite, Mr. Thorp Bates, whose rendering of "King Charles" and the accompanist's (Mr. Monk Gould) song, "Sir Nigel's song," was enthusiastically encored.

SOUTH PARADE PIER.—Manager for Corporation, Mr. F. G. Robson.—Mr. Chas. Heslop's bright and breezy pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe," continues to attract, the performance going throughout with a good swing. Some capital songs are introduced by Miss Beatrice Read, Mr. Leslie Holwood, Miss Maude Gardener, Messrs. Grant and Kelly, Miss Maidie Field, and Mr. C. Heslop. Another novelty is the "Finding the Clues" competition, introduced by the genial Mr. Alec Clunes.

PRESTON.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Manager, Mr. J. Alban Newton.—This week: Mr. Robert Courtneidge's company in "The Arcadians." The company includes: Mr. Dan Agar, Mr. Fred Evison, Mr. H. N. Hancock, Mr. R. Gascoigne, Mr. T. A. Braidon, Mr. Reg Harcourt, Mr. J. Jolly, Mr. W. Rice, Mr. R. Montgomery, Mr. Ben Clarke, Miss Nellie Taylor, Miss Nellie Kavanagh, Miss Pat O'Shea, Miss Ethel Rainforth, Miss Madeleine Curtis, Miss Hazel Alexander, Miss Edith Drayson, Miss Cecil Carey, Miss Patricia Musgrave, Miss Maudie Ray, Mr. Hamilton Ryan, Mr. Fred Ives, Miss Mary Powell. Matinée, Thursday. Next week: Maclaren and Bandman's company in "Claudian."

PRINCE'S THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. E. H. Page; Resident-Manager, Mr. Chas. E. Clarkson.—This week: Miss Winifred Maude's company in "The Mormon and the Maid." The company includes: Mr. Arthur L. Read, Mr. George Searle, Mr. Will White, Mr. Victor du Cane, Mr. Arthur Len Frere, Mr. George Ross, Miss Greta Drury, Miss Florence McInnes, Miss Gipsy Alexander, and Miss Winifred Maude. Matinée, Thursday.

ROYAL HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. W. H. Broadhead and Son; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank E. Burdett; Musical-Director, Mr. Robert Peel.—This week: Jordan and Harvey, Hebrew comedians; Thornton and Wagner, musical and vocal comedy; Lotto, Lilo and Otto, trick cyclists; the Behrwalls, equilibrists; the Du Gros Trio, trampolinists; Ted Mercell, comedian and roller skate dancer; Jock McNeil, Scottish comedian; and pictures. Twice nightly and Monday matinée.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Edwin Bush; General-Manager, Mr. Alan W. Young; Musical-Director, Mr. J. L. Dexter.—This week: George D'Albert, light comedian; Ludwig Amann, facial mimic; Sidney James' Strolling Players; the Tafanos, foot and head performers; Paul and Fred Wille, equilibrists; the Dorinos, in "The Dancing Academy"; Olga Doré, operatic actress; Haig and Novel, acrobats; Mark Leslie, the swell coon; and the Bioscope. Twice nightly and Monday matinée.

RADCLIFFE.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietor, Mr. George Testo Santé; Manager, Mr. R. Vaughan.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Edwin T. Heys presents "Hindle Wakes." The company includes: Mr. Edward Benson, Miss Nellie Stott, Miss Altona Stafford, Mr. Edward Cooper, Miss Mara Grace, Mr. F. Gerard Clifton, Mr. Harry Denvil, Miss Dorothy Day, and Miss Frances Kendal.

RAMSGATE.

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE.—Sole Lessee, Mr. W. J. Attack; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Bowman.—This week (twice nightly): Mlle. Palermo and Signor Chefalo, in a series of illusions, entitled "The Garden of Mystery": Zoe Gilfillan, vocalist; Sonny Day, eccentric dancer; Bayburn and Dix, in comedy sketch, "Skits on the 'Phone"; Rose Harvey, in song-scena, "The Boys' Brigade"; Maurice Cowan, comedian; Paul Vandy, juggler and illusionist; and pictures.

RAWTENSTALL.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietor and Lessee, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Archibald L. Pareezer.—This week: Chung Ling Soo, with his talented company; Miss Elsie Norma, comedienne and dancer; Mr. George Maston, Yorkshire comedian and mimic; Yazo, violinist; Rall and Tano, comedians; Miss Cordite, with the Wonderful Mexicans, in lasso, lariat, and stock-whip manipulation; and Chung Ling Soo, in a répertoire of extraordinary illusions.

ROYAL PAVILION.—Sole Proprietor, Mr. Albert Wilkinson.—This week: M. Ugo, in his mysterious scena, "Mirthful Mysteries"; Tom Thumb; Miss May Newall, vocalist.

READING.

PALACE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Reading Palace Theatre of Varieties, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Jesse Sparrow; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred Leake.—This week (twice nightly): The Four Holloways, acrobatic and trick cyclists; Phil Kauffman, comedian; the Bros. Erard, musical comedians; Alice Hoodless, posing artiste; Rose and Challoner, "The Porter and the Singer"; Bertram Banks, child imitator; Nellie Nora, instrumentalist; Alec Kendal; and pictures

ROCHDALE.

ROYAL HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The Jackson Family; Manager, Mr. James Jackson, senr.—This week: Percival Knight, in the episode, "Detective Keen"; Lee and Kingston, in a pot-pourri of absurdities; Tom Stuart, in dramatic and burlesque impressions; the Three Bros. Reigels, in comic tumbling exhibition; Tom Jersey, expert shadowgraphist; Renee Ray, in artistic tableaux; the Corona-Gatty Trio, in "The Silver Hall of Harmony"; and pictures.

PRINGLE'S EMPIRE.—Sole Lessees, Pringle's Picture Palaces, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Ralph Pringle; Resident-Manager, Mr. James Pringle.—This week: The Four Sisters Netherlands, in Dutch scena and dances; Delmar and Demay, in comedy sketch, "My Willie"; and pictures.

ROTHERHAM.

ROYAL. — Proprietors, North of England Theatre Corporation; General-Manager, Mr. F. Macnaghten; Resident-Manager, Mr. John Dunbar.—This week the attraction here is Mr. Arthur Hinton and Miss Leila Zillwood's company, in "His Indian Wife."

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Rotherham Hippodrome, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Geo. E. Smith; General-Manager, Mr. Claude Shayler; Resident-Manager, Mr. Wm. Pearson; Musical-Director, Mr. J. Miller.—Monday evening last saw the opening of the second week of Miss Florrie Forde's gorgeous pantomime, "Babes in the Wood," at the Hippodrome, and the audiences were as large and enthusiastic as ever.

RUGBY.

VINT'S NEW HIPPODROME AND THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden.—This week: Florence Glossop-Harris and Frank Cellier's Shakespearean Company are presenting their répertoire of plays, opening on Monday night with "The Taming of the Shrew." The company includes: Miss Florence Glossop-Harris, Miss Marjorie Allen, Miss Gertrude Gilbert, Miss Sybil Ruskin, Miss Mona Cox, Miss Katie Clive, Mr. Frank Cellier, Mr. Edward Dunstan, Mr. Arthur Layland, Mr. Doane Gardiner, Mr. Frank Pringle, Mr. William Podmore, Mr. Hawksworth Dix, Mr.

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VINT'S ELECTRIC PALACE OF VARIETIES.—Proprietor, Mr. Leon Vint; General-Manager, Mr. Arthur Brogden.—This week: The Kotenichi Troupe of Japanese jugglers, Harry Whitmark, the Reardon Wilson and Douett Trio, and pictures.

RUNCORN.

PUBLIC HALL.—Lessees, Messrs. Hamilton and Hughes.—This week: Mr. and Mrs. George Leonard, in "A Tale of Geraniums"; John Lord, musical collier; W. P. Wentley, Scottish character delineator; Dolan and Darty, comedy and tumbling act; and pictures.

RUSHDEN.

PALACE.—General-Manager, Mr. W. F. J. Hewitt; Resident-Manager, Mr. A. W. Thompson; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred Adams.—This week (Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, twice nightly): Mr. Will H. Glaze presents "No Mother to Guide Her." The company includes: Mr. Alfred Morriss, Mr. John Plume, Mr. Charles Drew, Mr. William Walker, Miss Roma Pendrous, Miss Georgie De Lara, Miss Betty Seymour, Mr. George Gormley, Mr. Huntley Gordon, Mr. Leonard Clarke, Mr. H. Ryeland-Leigh, Mr. Will Glaze, Mr. Tom Beasley, and Mr. Fred Wynne. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday: Vernon and Mars Trio, vocalists and dancers; La Delbosq, dancer; Sim-Maree, Tamamoto, Japanese wire walker; and pictures. Picture matinée, Saturday, at 2.30.

RYDE.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. Terry Wood.—This week: Mr. George Spink presents "Aladdin" for six nights and two matinées. The company includes: Miss Marie Earle, Miss Lizzie Primmer, Mr. Gus Ern, Miss Edie Bucking, Mr. George Payne, Miss Judith Espinosa, and La Petite Irene Pascove, Mr. C. W. Brighton, Mr. Cecil Stafford, Mr. George Barron, Mr. Charles Edwards, Miss Lottie Lester, Mr. Vincent Howell, Miss Ruth Miller, Miss Eois Opra, Miss Beth McKie, Miss Lily Wilson, &c.

SALFORD.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.—Proprietor and Manager, Mr. E. B. Goulden; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harold Goulden.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Charles Edward Clarkson presents "Little Red Riding Hood." The company includes: Miss Dorothy Belmore, Miss Claire Hastings, Little Eva Petrie, Miss Gale, Miss Murray, Miss Myra Douglass, Miss Ethel Vause, Miss Gladys Vaughan, Miss Violet Arthur, Mr. Bertie Wyse, Mr. Fred C. Imbert. Mr. R. Martin, Miss Elsie Smithe, Mr. Jack Jackson, Mr. Ted Marte, Mr. Nicklin Williams, and Mr. Cecil H. Raymond. Touring-Manager, Mr. Fred C. Imbert. Matinées, Wednesday and Saturday, at 2.15.

REGENT THEATRE OF VARIETIES, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. Hurley; Musical-Director, Mr. Sydney L. Hampton.—This week: Miss Edith St. Claire's pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe." The company includes Miss Edith St. Claire, Miss Wynnie Darrell, Mr. J. W. Hall, Mr. Mark Lupino, Mr. Mark Practice, Mr. Gus Walker, Miss Victoria Maitland, Miss Masie Coles, Messrs. Hymar and Metford, Mr. Arthur Cartwright, Mr. James Rich, Mr. Carter Arthurs, Miss Adele Prescott, and Miss Ruby Leyton. Specialities are contributed by Miss Edith St. Claire, Mr. J. W. Hall, Mr. Mark Lupino, dancing by the Four Havanna Girls, and Messrs. Hymar and Metford. Mr. Manville Morton is manager for Miss St. Claire. Twice nightly, and matinées Tuesday and Saturday.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. William Henry Broadhead and Son; Resident-Acting-Manager, Mr. Henry Hearn. — This week (twice nightly): Lew Lake, magician; Fred Wright, humorist; Shirley Sparks, "the electric current"; Lola Charm, comedienne; the Goodalls, in trampoline act; Jacko, the man monkey; Chas. Denham, comedian; the Stellios, in equilibristic and acrobatic act; Irving and Jasmine, vaudeville entertainers; Minerva Troupe of Football Cyclists. Matinée, Tuesday, 2.30.

OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. Turner; General-Manager, Mr. Chas. A. Hurley; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. Davenport.—This week (twice nightly and matinées Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday): Mr. Tom Sherlock, tenor vocalist, and the Regent new animated pictures.

KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Proprietors, The United Electric Theatres, Ltd., London.—Manager, Mr. Joe Bardsley.—This week: Mr. Arthur Bridge, character vocalist, and the pictures. Twice nightly, and matinées Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday.

SALISBURY.

PICTUREDROME AND THEATRE, LTD.—Managing-Director, Mr. Albany Ward; Resident-Manager, Mr. Percy Maitland.—The usual picture and variety entertainment from the Palace Theatre is removed to the above place, owing to the Wiltshire County Ball taking place this week. Varieties are given by the Lauri Brothers, ideal athletes; Daisy Graham and company and her troupe of performing birds; the Three O'Connors, in their musical and singing act.

SCARBOROUGH.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE.—Managing-Director, Mr. William Peacock; Manager, Mr. G. H. Hawkins. — This week (for three nights): Mr. Alfred Denville's company, in "The Miracle." The company includes: Mr. Clifford Rean, Mr. J. H. Clyndes, Mr. Dobson Paige, Mr. Alfred Denville, Mr. R. Ossulston-Riche, Mr. John Denville, Mr. George R. J. Austin, Mr. T. R. Bannister, Mr. Alex. Camm, Mr. C. H. Carten, Mr. Will Moody, Mr G. Philips-Broughton, Mr. G. Webster, Mr. George Gordon, Miss Hilda Playfair, Miss Phene Powel, Miss Mary Alexander, Miss Patricia Bostock, Miss Hannah Bain, Miss Gertrude Carten, and Miss Betty Stannard. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday, Mr. Max Aller's company, in "Hindle Wakes," played by Mr. J. Milne Taylor, Miss Ethel Hardacre, Miss Betty Fairfax, Mr. Hodgson Taylor, Miss Bessie Bedford, Mr. Keith Kenneth, Mr. Christopher Steele, Miss Gladys Lloyd, and Miss Margaret Anderson. Next week: "Bella Donna."

AQUARIUM.—Managing-Director and Secretary, Mr. Walter Kitchingman; Assistant-Manager, Mr. H. Bench; Musical-Director, Mr. Alf. Candler.—This week: Richard Corbin's dogs; J. G. Silvano, comedy cyclist; Johnny Cecil, comedian; Les Andres, dancing specialists; Mauritus, the handcuff king and jail breaker; Sharp's Tromboneers in "The Officer's Quarters"; and Vernon's Bioscope.

THEATRE ROYAL CINEMA.—Proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Garside; Managers, Mr. E. L. Garside and Mr. Quinton Gilson. — This week: Mavis and French, in novelty act; M. Elliott, entertainer; Gyto, the jocular tramp juggler; and pictures.

SEAHAM HARBOUR.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. A. C. Harrison; Manager, Mr. Wallace Childs.—This week: Mr. Richard Flanagan is presenting "The Winter's Tale." The company includes: Mr. Norman Partriege, Mr. Wilfrid Beckwith, Mr. Charles Stirling, Mr. George Horrocks, Mr. James Donatus, Miss Ponsonby Hartshorn, and Miss Una Rashleigh.

NEW EMPIRE.—This week: Abex, the college boy athlete; La Vino, in juggling on bottles act; and Giro Sans, in Japanese specialities.

CO-OPERATIVE HALL. — Lessee, Mr. C. Wilkinson; Manager, Mr. Joe Andy.—This week: Rex and Hart, burlesque soldier comedians and eccentric dancers; and Ina Black, vocalist.

SHEERNESS.

HIPPODROME.—Sole Lessee, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Henry Danson; Musical Director, Mr. Frank Hughes; Musical-Director for company, Mr. Joseph Moss.—This week: Mr. Fred Carpenter's company, in "Jack and the Beanstalk." The company includes: Miss Daisy Verne, Mr. Syd Crossley, Messrs. Pannett and Neden, Mr. Montague Biggs, Miss Gracie Matheson, the Sisters Hula, Miss Dorothy Foster, Miss Audrey Allison, Miss Marie Raynor, Miss Gladys Beaumont, the Four Clifton Belles, Mr. Jack Haddow, and Mr. Fred Eugene.

SHEFFIELD.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont.—The successful musical play "Our Miss Gibbs" began a welcome engagement on Monday under the direction of Messrs. Leslie Moreton and Guyton Heath. Miss Florence Ray made a pretty and graceful representative of Mary Gibbs, Mr. Sinclair Holden was a smart and insouciant Hughie Pierrepoint. Mr. Collins Rolfe's Earl of St. Ives, and Mr. Wilfred Norman's Slithers were clever character sketches. Mr. Benson North was good as Lord Eynesford; Mr. Noel Spenser was a characteristic family solicitor as Mr. Beavis; Miss Beatrice St. Vincent was successful as Mrs. Farquhar; Miss Kitty Hyde looked well and acted charmingly as the Lady Elizabeth Thanet, and other parts were admirably played by Miss Aubrey Ashton, Miss Mona Glynn, Mr. M. Forbes, Mr. Fred Bentley, Mr. L. Edwards, Mr. C. Wren, and Miss Violet Tremaine. There was a good chorus, and the scenery and dresses were first-rate. Mr. H. A. Dyer conducted.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Managing-Director, Mr. John Hart; General-Manager, Mr. J. E. B. Beaumont; Assistant-Manager, Mr. M. Mahony.—Mr. Hart's popular annual, "Cinderella," continues to do good business.

ALEXANDRA THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. W. D. Forsdike; Acting-Manager and Treasurer, Mr. C. W. Ramsay.—The funny and spectacular pantomime "Mother Goose" is nightly received with hearty applause and roars of laughter.

EMPIRE PALACE.—Proprietors, the Moss Empires, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Allen; Acting-Manager, Mr. L. M. Stewart.—The pièce de résistance this week is Mr. Percy Honri's grand musical extravaganza in nine scenes, "Bohemia," in which appear Mr. Percy Honri and a large and talented company. The Haytors, the well-known entertainers, are always very welcome in their clever and natural skit "The Electrician." Leipsig submits a clever conjuring and card manipulation performance. The charming Sisters Finney, the "Water Nymphs," appear in a graceful natation act; and other turns scheduled this week are Russell and Held, American entertainers; Mr. Ernie Grossmith, jocular light comedian; Mr. Archie Naish, entertainer at the piano; Mr. Henry Helme, vocalist; and the Empire pictures. Musical-Director, Mr. Arthur Grimmett.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, the Sheffield Hippodrome Co., Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. Frank Poole.—Mr. Harry Burns's gorgeous pantomime, "Dick Whittington and His Cat," is playing to crowded houses. Some good scenery is provided, and the cast is of all-round excellence. Mr. George Jackley is a good laugh-maker in the part of Idle Jack. Miss Helen Charles makes a handsome and talented Dick. Alice is charmingly impersonated by Miss Rosie Pink, Mr. Joe Pauly is an active Tommy, and other characters are well played by Miss Lillian Barnes, Miss N. Hindmarsh, and Mr. Michael Madden. Clever specialities are introduced by the Jackleys and the Twelve Rainbows.

SMETHWICK.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietor, Mr. Charles Barnard; Musical-Director, Mr. Wilfrid Hickling.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Charles Barnard presents "White as a Lily." The company includes: Mr. George Belmore, Mr. Edward Avinal, Mr. Wal. E. Kirby, Mr. A. B. Lyons, Mr. E. H. Burton, Mr William Paget, Mr Walter Denham, Mr. Alfred Renton, Mr. Claude Bigwood, Miss Evelyn Vaudray, Miss Stella Carmichael, Miss Winnie Webster, Miss Doris Nowland, Miss Trixie Gem, and Miss Dorothy White. Touring-Manager, Mr. E. H. Burton. Next week: "Aladdin."

EMPIRE, LTD. — Managing-Director, Mr. B. Kennedy; Secretary, Mr. W. H. Adams; Acting-Manager, Mr. A. G. Guest; Conductor, Mr. Ernest Bratt.—This week: Les Cycluminas, Continental electric trick cyclists; Poole and Poole, Yorkshire comedy couple; Four Behans, comedy artistes, vocalists, and dancers; D. W. Watson, cornet and post horn virtuoso; T. E. Bates, comedian; the What Isis Comedy Male Quartette, in scenas, "By the Roadside" and "Burgling"; and pictures.

BEARWOOD COLISEUM.—Proprietors, Smethwick Empire, Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. B. Kennedy; Secretary, Mr. W. H. Adams; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Kennedy.—This week: Five Sisters Volka, comedy acrobats and expert dancers; Hilda Marion, refined vocalist and dancer; Davie Abbott, the nimble Scot; and pictures.

SOUTHAMPTON.

GRAND THEATRE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Arthur Weston.—This week: Mr. George Edwardes' company in "Gipsy Love." The company includes: Mr. Lionel Victor, Mr. Peter A. Gawthorn, Miss Blanche Tomlin, Miss Mary Ridley, Miss Connie St. Clair, Mr. Louis Bradfield, jun., Mr. Norman Greene, Mlle. Kosza, and Mr. Alfred H. Majilton. Chorus and orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Howard Carr, do excellent work, and Mr. Percy J. Purdey is the general-manager of the company.

PALACE.—Resident-Manager, Mr. Will Murray.—This week: Messrs. James A. and Herbert B. Jewell's production, "Change; or, The Haunted Castle"; Otto Kahn, athlete; the Eight Germania Girls; Jack Stocks; the Gerbola Trio; and Broughton and Creedon, in musical act.

HIPPODROME. — Proprietors, The South of England Hippodromes, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Yardley; Musical-Director, Mr. James Southworth. — This week (twice nightly): Mr. Edward Marris presents "Red Riding Hood." The company includes: Miss Florrie Arthur, Miss Bessie Esmond, Miss Jessica Brook, Miss Jessie Ewart, Miss Gwen Clifford, Mr. J. C. Morris, Mr. Harwood Cooper, the Bernharts, Mr. Alfred Rushen, Mr. Fred Gibbins, Mr. Edgar Martell, the Martells, and Mr. Dick Martell. Matinée, Thursday, at 2.30.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. B. Pareezer; Resident-Manager, Mr. Julian Graham.—This week (once nightly): Mr. George Dance presents "A Waltz Dream." The company includes: Mr. Frederick Hearne, Mr. Edwin Brett, Mr. Harry B. Clark, Mr. Arthur Medwin, Mr. Jack Govan, Mr. Henry Brooke, Mr. Fred Pitt, Mr. Will Hindson, Miss Dorothy Moulton, Miss Josset Ellis, Miss Emmeline Orford, Miss Dorothy Waine, Miss Maude Lancaster, Miss Irene Bradbrook, Miss Maude Vyse, Miss Florence Seymour, Miss Hilda Shepherd, Miss Madge Escolme, and Miss Hilda Guiver. Touring-manager, Mr. Robert Grey. Matinée, Wednesday, at 2.30. Next week, "Cinderella."

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Walter de Frece; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. H. Lennon.—This week: "Aladdin."

SOUTHPORT.

OPERA HOUSE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Percy Hutchison; Business-Manager, Mr. George Clarkson.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Philip M. Faraday presents "The Pink Lady." The company includes: Miss Hilda Vining, Mr. Percy Carr, Miss Gladys Beech, Mr. Robert Blythe, Mr. Walter Cross, Mr. Barron H. Halford, Miss Rhoda Gordon, Miss Mynie May, Mr. John Maxwell, Mr. Alex. Buchanan, Mr. Frank Attree, Miss Zoe Windley, Mr. Ernest Grata, Mr. Marshall Sheppard, Miss Mabel Durrant, Miss Joan Keddie, Mr. Hewett Whiting, Mr. George Paulton, Miss Belle Rivers, Miss Muriel Johnstone, Miss Nell Desmond, Miss Maudie Russell, Mr. Sylvanus Potts, Mr. Henry J. White, and Mr. Fred Wright, jun. Touring-manager, Mr. Charles Thorburn. Matinée, Saturday, at 2 p.m. Next week, "Sweet Nell of Old Drury."

EMPIRE THEATRE OF VARIETIES, WINTER GARDENS.—Lessee and Director-General, Mr. W. Simpson Cross, F.Z.S.—This week (twice nightly): Conn and Conrad, eccentric comedians; Guila Denza, comedienne and dancer; the Juggling Folettes, pot-pourri artistes; Bonar and Tess, in refined drawing-room scena; Renz Brothers, comedy acrobats; Jack Edwin, coomedian; Derby and Oakes, dancers; Kenneth and Kane, comedy duo; Doughty and Laney, in "A Woman's Way"; and the Bioscope.

PIER PAVILION.—Lessee, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. Eric Longden.—This week (twice nightly): Mascot, "the white beauty"; Julian Mack, in dame topical talk; Charles Torby, comedian; Florence Cooper, contralto vocalist; Frank Le Gay Trio, Parisian dancers; Syd Moorhouse, the dandy demon; Neva and Minton, in musical comedy act, "A Leap Year Proposal"; Vigoranto Trio, acrobats and gymnasts; Bugler Carr, equilibrist; and the Bioscope.

SOUTH SHIELDS.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. John W. Coulson; Secretary, Miss F. Black; Musical-Director, Mr. Jos. Hopper.—This week: Mr. Fred Granville's pantomime, "Babes in the Wood." The company includes: Mr. Harry Jones, Miss F. Latham, Miss E. Minster, Miss B. Savage, Miss M. Wallace, Miss Kitty Colman, Miss Ivy Arnold, Miss Marie Estelle, Mr. George Green, Mr. Matt Kilduff, Mr. Evan Davis, Rand and O'Ryan, Miss Betty Boden, Miss Vera Elmore, Miss Maud Phillips, Miss Kitty Clifford, Miss Kitty Garden, Miss E. Burgess, Miss C. Brooks, Miss C. Hornby, and the Sisters Lyall. Next week: J. W. Turner's English Opera company.

EMPIRE PALACE THEATRE. — Managing-Director, Mr. Richd. Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Frank Allen; Business-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden; Resident-Manager, Mr. Edwin Winter.—This week: Mr. Harry Burns' pantomime, "Robinson Crusoe." The company includes: Miss Victoria Carmen, Miss Vera Rochdale, Misses Tennis and Laune, Miss Florrie May, Miss Florrie Elliston, Miss Dowety Gordon, Messrs. Stewart and Morris, Mr. Thos. Warne, Mr. Arthur Wilson, Mr. Bernard Cox, Messrs. Jones, Yorke, and Wilson, Miss Jenny Morby, Miss Bertha Rogers, Mr. H. Griffiths, Mr. Will Lindsay, and Mr. Arthur Aiston. Musical-Director, Mr. E. J. Hardy.

GRAND ELECTRIC THEATRE, OCEAN-ROAD.—Manager, Mr. James Bainton.—This week: Clown Argo, animal mimic and entertainer; Miss Ivy Lea, the 'cello girl, who sings and plays; and pictures.

PALACE ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Lecturer-Manager, Mr. Wilfrid Bryant; Assistant-Manager, Mr. Richd. H. Taylor.—This week: R. S. Beresford and a company of Canadian and American players in sketch, "The Cowboy's Redemption." The company includes: Miss Florence Russell, Carmen Hand (Dutch comedienne), and pictures.

KING'S PICTURES.—Manager, Mr. Morris Geo. Elsy.—This week: Maurice and Maurice, vocalists; and the Bioscope.

SPENNYMOOR.

CAMBRIDGE.—Lessees, Messrs. Alf. Burrows and Thos. Drewett; Manager, Mr. Burrows.—The Dramas, Ltd., appear here with "The Octoroon," which was played the first three nights, whilst the programme for the remainder of the week consisted of "The Shaughraun."

ARCADIA.—Proprietor, Mr. R. F. Gowland; Manager, Mr. H. E. Feather.—This week: The Six Seftons, vocalists and dancers; Gracie Bard, comedienne; Harry King, actor-vocalist; and pictures.

TIVOLI.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. Alf. Burrows.—This week: D. Young's Eight Little Sports; and pictures.

STAFFORD.

PLAYHOUSE.—Lessee and Manageress, Mrs. Evelyn Thomas.—Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday: Mr. Harold Wagner's company, in "A Trip to Chinatown." The company includes: Messrs. Aimyr Vane, Edward de Vere, Fred Lytton, Jack Hellyer, Randolph Churchill, Richard C. Wagner, Bertram Dempster, Frank Dennis, and Misses Ada Tilley, Marie Churchill, Hilda Attenborough, Gwenora Thayer, Evelyn Petherick, and Sybil Mudie. Thursday, Friday, and Saturday: "Jelfs." Next week: "The Chocolate Soldier" and "Hindle Wakes."

STANLEY.

THEATRE ROYAL. — Proprietors, Stanley Theatre Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Mark H. Lindon; Musical-Director, Mr. J. F. Macdonald.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Chas. Elderton presents "Aladdin." The company includes: Mr. Henry Eglington, Miss Agnes Collier, Miss Florence Curran, Miss Alice Raymond, Miss Minnie Terry, Miss Bella Terry, Miss Nellie Wilson, Miss Lily Fuller, Mr. Horace Wyatt, Mr. Herbert Fuller, Mr. George Delamere, Brothers Granville, Mr. Harry Levaine, and Mr. Frank Moore. Matinée, Saturday, at 2 p.m.

ST. HELENS.

THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE.—Proprietors, St. Helens Theatre, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. McLeod Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry E. Johnson.—Mr. C. Watson Mill produces "Mid Pleasures and Palaces" here this week. The company includes: Mr. C. Watson Mill, Mr. E. E. Louis, Mr. Horace A. Whitmer, Mr. V. Stanley, Mr. Richard Oliver, Mr. W. Palliser Acock, Mr. D. Laurence Doyle, Miss M. Eylon, Miss E. Gregory, Miss Emily Lovelace, and Miss Joan Ellis, and Frida and Frank.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietors, Messrs. Barrasford, Sley, and Willmot; Acting-Manager, Mr. Leo Weisker.—This week: "Perkins, M.P.," with Tom Nelson as Perkins; and "Wakes Week" (both by Fred Karno), with Tom Nelson as Joe Waddle, and big company; Nelson Trio, comedy skating; Francis O'Flynn, banjo player; Wee Dot and Doris; Jaap Van Laren, wire walking act; Maisie Thorne; and Hicks and Yorke, the lady and the gent.

STOCKTON.

GRAND THEATRE. — Proprietors, Mr. John Batty; Manager, Mr. Walter Batty.—This week (twice nightly): Mr. T. Edward Ward's company in "The Slave Girl." The company includes: Mr. S. Elwyn-Leslie, Mr. Fred Rivers, Mr. Chris Dare, Mr. H. Arnold Allen, Mr. Willie H. Vernon, Mr. Victor Cannon, Miss Louie King, Miss Lily Snow, Miss Nellie Hales, Miss Effie Macintosh, Miss Lizzie Chambers, Miss Gem Lloyd, and Miss Ward.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee and General-Manager, Mr. Harry Burns; Resident-Manager, Mr. Geo. V. Stainton. — This week (twice nightly): Messrs. Armitage and Leigh present "The Barrier." The company includes: Mr. Stanley Bedwell, Mr. Richard Hicks, Mr. Arthur Leigh, Mr. C. C. Gratton, Mr. Charles Barrett, Mr. Louis Hector, Mr. Harry Morgan, Mr. Aries Conway, Miss Jessie Belmore, and Miss Florence Tressilian. Touring-Manager, Mr. Graham Pocket. Next week: "Miss Hook of Holland."

STOKE.

HIPPODROME.—Proprietor, Mr. T. Allan Edwardes; Manager, Mr. William Berson.—This week (twice nightly): The historical drama, "The Fatal Crown," is presented by Mr. James Bell's company, including Miss Annie Bell, Mr. Ernest Allen, Mr. Arthur Gordon, Mr. Barnett Lando, Mr. John Manners, Mr. H. Goddard, Little Tichbourne, Miss Amy McNeil, Miss Ray Nicolls, Mr. W. H. Milton, and Mr. Fred Wilby. Mr. J. Handley Parker is business-manager.

STOURBRIDGE.

ALHAMBRA THEATRE, PICTURE PALACE, AND VARIETY HALL.—General-Manager, Mr. Douglas C. Phelps. — This week: The Three Floradoras, in musical scena, "Two's Company, Three's None"; Davis and Deane, society comedians and shadow dancers; Chas. F. Hill, the Dumb Droll, in "A Triumph of Tricks," assisted by Florina Martini; and pictures.

KING'S HALL.—Proprietors, Poole's Theatres, Ltd.; General-Manager, Mr. C. W. Poole; Manager, Mr. H. J. Wharton.—This week: Dorsch and Russell, in scenic novelty, "The Musical Railroaders"; Dora Mackay, American vocalist; the McGregors, comedy and vocal entertainers; pictures.

BRIERLEY HILL QUEEN'S HALL.—Proprietors, Poole's Theatres; Manager, Mr. C. Cooper.—This week we have Madam Aston, the Nightingale of the Midlands; Lesfadof, in comedy juggling act; Poole's perfect pictures.

WORDSLEY OLYMPIA ELECTRIC THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. B. Kennedy; Manager, Mr. A. Bayley.—This week we have Mr. Alban Dunham's company in one-act drama, "The Sunset Bell"; pictures.

SUNDERLAND.

KING'S THEATRE.—Lessee and Manager, Mr. S. F. Davidson; General-Manager, Mr. Lloyd Townrow; Treasurer, Mr. L. Crawford Orr.—"Cinderella" continues to draw large audiences at this house, and the performance is continually improving. Mr. Johnny Osborne as the Baron is genuinely funny, and his song, "Woolloomooloo," creates tremendous enthusiasm. Another popular humorous number, "We all went in together," is contributed by Mr. Paddy Dupres, who, as the dame, imbues it and all his work with many quaint mannerisms. Mr. Harry Rogerson is particularly happy as the Page, Choddles, and his song, "Tired," introducing some intrepid tumbling is vastly enjoyed. Miss Nell Emerald as Dandini is an unqualified success, and her active renderings of "Gay Paree" and "I want to go on a honeymoon," go with a bang. Miss Ouida Macdermott is becoming and stately as the Prince, and sings "My heart is with you to-night" with considerable pathos. Miss Violet Russell has a charming bearing as Cinderella, and her song, "Little night-light," is prettily rendered, and is followed by some graceful steps. Miss Jeannie Hackett as Mopsa and Miss Dorothy L. Townrow as the spiteful sisters both contribute much valuable work on their own lines; Miss Mamie Hainsworth does delightful work as the Fairy Godmother. The charming dancing of Chiffon and the Martelli Troupe are a very welcome item in the production.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Managing-Director, Mr. Richard Thornton; General-Manager, Mr. Harry Esden.—Betty Barclay and a Baritone are scoring a tremendous success with their clever vocal act here this week; Friend and Downing create roars of laughter with their Hebrew and Irish duologue; L'Incognita receives warm applause for her finished vocal contributions; Paulton and Dooley's quartette give a clever and humorous cycling act; the Brothers Curran are popular with some adept and humorous boxing; May Henderson, "the dusky comedy queen," also gives a keenly enjoyed turn. The Four Arconis excel in acrobatism; and the Wonderful Magini proves in many ways to be a master of the violin.

AVENUE THEATRE.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; Business-Manager, Mr. T. Clement Padden.—Tom and Kate Major are repeating their huge success of last week in the amusing comedy, "The Broker's Man"; Moran and Tingley do some clever acrobatic dancing; and George Lennard proves himself a clever actor-vocalist.

THEATRE ROYAL.—Proprietor, Mr. Richard Thornton; Business-Manager, Mr. Chas. Boulton.—The pantomime, "Dick Whittington," has completely won the public favour here. Miss Freda Danilo is a lively and dashing Dick, and makes good use of her opportunities of showing her qualities in vocalism. Miss Isa Gibson is graceful as Alice, and is warmly applauded for her vocal numbers. Miss Jean King as the Chocolate Princess and Miss Kitty Rhoades as the Fairy Queen both do highly commendable work. Miss Maisy Grey is highly successful as Bhey Rum. Misses Gertrude and Daisy Gaye as Bobby and Dolly are an exceptionally clever duet. Mr. Sam Fay as the Alderman keeps his audience in roars of laughter with his drolleries, and Mr. Dan Rodney as the Cook and Mr. Jack Conan as Idle Jack are another extremely funny couple. Mr. Tom Hall as the Captain and Mr. Jack Colby as the Mate also share largely in the merrymaking of the piece. Mention ought also to be made of Mr. Rozel for his clever delineation of the Cat, and also of the chorus and ballet for their good work.

PALACE THEATRE.—General-Manager, Mr. A. G. Hamilton.—Yuma is scoring heavily here with some weird acrobatic and illusionistic work. The Frank L. Gregory Troupe do some clever juggling; and the Three Betts give a pleasing dancing act, entitled "A Study in Black and White."

SWANSEA.

GRAND THEATRE.—Sole Proprietors, Messrs. David Allen and Sons, Ltd.; Resident-Manager, Mr. T. Byrne; Musical-Director, Mr. F. F. Hulley.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Geo. Edwardes' company in "The Count of Luxembourg." Touring-Manager, Mr. Trueman Towers. The company includes: Miss Vere Sinclair, Miss Lina Hicks, Miss Elsa Twemlow, Miss Marguerite Vernon, Miss Marguerite Edgley, Miss Irene Crammond, Miss Nancy Mortimer, Miss Eva Hertz, Miss Marjorie Gresham, Miss J. Rutter, Miss Mercy June, Miss Gertie Anderton, Miss Mabel Twemlow, Mr. Willie Hartill, Mr. Mark Lester, Mr. Edwin Oxlee, Mr. Dundas Walker, Mr. Lacy Mills, Mr. Ernest Norris, Mr. Norman Brown, Mr. A. Traile, Mr. Alec Johnstone, Mr. Arthur Wellesley, Mr. R. Graham, and Mr. Nigel Barrie. Matinée, Saturday, 2.30. Next week: "Mother Goose."

EMPIRE.—Proprietors, Moss' Empires, Ltd.; Acting-Manager, Mr. Geo. H. Richardson.—This week (twice nightly): Jen Latona, singer; Dave Bryant, comedian; Walter Munroe, Irish comedian; Marjorie Dawson, the crinoline girl; Keen and Waller, comedians; Three Prestons, in rustic scena; Harry Simms, comedian; Ted Hopkins, Welsh comedian; pictures.

SWINDON.

EMPIRE THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Wiltshire Entertainments Co., Ltd.; Managing-Director, Mr. Alfred Manners; Musical-Director, Mr. Fred H. Lucas.—This week: Mr. Frederick Melville presents "The Monk and the Woman." The company includes: Mr. Ronald Adair, Mr. Jerrold Manville, Mr. Leonard Thackeray, Mr. Robert Purdie, Mr. Harry Cullinford, Mr. Vernon Sansbury, Mr. Stanley Marsh, Mr. Frank Maurice, Mr. Robert Amble, Mr. Lewis Barton, Mr. Richard Raynor, Mr. Hal. Charlton, Mr. Lewin Mannering, Mr. Cecil Finney, Mr. Claude Furgerson, Mr. Henry Morland, Mr. Frank Barrington, Mr. Alfred Nightingale, Miss Lilian Hallows, Miss Margaret Tueskie, Miss Rita Rothwell, Miss Marie Stella, and Miss Alice Mosley. Touring-Manager, Mr. Chris Mason. Next week: "A Woman in the Case."

TREHERBERT.

PALACE. — Managing-Director, Mr. C. W. Poole; Resident-Manager, Mr. W. A. Totten; Operator, Mr. Arthur E. Kento.—This week: The Original Zancigs, exponents of the mental telepathic art; Baby Sinclair, juvenile male impersonator; Fred Arthur, the "shabby genteel expert" and mimic; and pictures. Special matinées, Tuesday and Friday, at 11. Saturday at 3.

WAKEFIELD.

OPERA HOUSE.—This week (once nightly): Miss Ethel Van Praagh and Mr. J. Edward Whitty present "Moths." The company includes: Mr. A. Austin Leigh, Mr. Guy P. Ellis, Mr. Stuart Chedburn, Mr. J. Edward Whitty, Mr. John Corless, Mr. Harold Ford, Mr. Phillip Austen, Miss F. Hastings, Miss May Neilson, Miss Dorothy Dewhurst, and Miss E. Van Praagh.

EMPIRE.—This week (once nightly): Mr. Geo. Dance presnts "A Waltz Dream." The company includes: Mr. J. Noel Leyland, Mr. Fred Lyne, Mr. Geo. F. Burdett, Mr. John R. Val, Mr. Richd. Keith, Mr. H. E. Neville, Mr. H. V. Diamond, Mr. Reginald P. Rutter, Miss Mabel Graham, Miss Marion Broom, Miss Rene Glynn, Miss Barbara Lea, Miss Daisy Yule, Miss Nellie Palmer, Miss Mabel St. Clair, Miss Mavis Shaw, Miss Kathleen Brett, Miss Violet Hope, and Miss Jessie Bevan. Touring-Manager, Mr. Victor Forsythe.

HIPPODROME.—Lessee, Mr. Sydney Tolfree; Acting-Manager, Mr. Harry Heath.—This week (twice nightly): The Lumars, comedy artistes; James Dixon, Lancashire's premier baritone; and pictures. Matinée, Saturday, at 2.45.

GRAND ELECTRIC.—Resident-Manager, Mr. H. Dunnill.—This week (twice nightly): Barlow and Brookes, speciality duettists; the Two Welfares, comedy duo; and pictures. Matinées, Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, at 3.

WALSALL.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Proprietors, The Walsall Theatres Co., Ltd.; Secretary and Manager, Mr. W. H. Westwood.—Mr. Harry Day and Mr. Edward Lauri present the pantomime "Cinderella" here. The company includes: Miss Empsie Bowman, Miss Rosalie Jacobi, Miss May Romayne, Miss Kitty West, Mr. James Ross, Mr. George Loyal, Mr. George Bass, Mr. Jack Harris, Miss Grace Ross, Miss Dora Christian, Miss Katrina Blakowskie, Messrs. Kimberley and Melbourne, and the Lottie Stone and Austin troupes of dancers. The musical-director is Mr. W. A. Leggett.

WARRINGTON.

ROYAL COURT. — Proprietor, Sir Joseph Beecham; General-Manager, Mr. A. M. Loader; Acting-Manager, Mr. H. Warburton.—A brilliant success has been achieved here this week by Mr. Gar Kiddie's pantomime company in "Babes in the Wood." The pantomime is merry and tuneful, and has the merit of a connected story. The chorus is well balanced, and there are specialities introduced which meet with approval. Miss Eva May Rosslyn is a dashing outlaw, Robin Hood; her song, "Who were you with last night?" is a big success. Miss Marion Duncan makes a dainty and winsome Maid Marion, and her sweet soprano voice is heard to advantage in many numbers. The parts of the Babes are charmingly played by the Sisters Wright; and Miss Lily King is good as Will Scarlet. Miss Denis Dean as Little John and Miss Nellie King as Allan a'Dale work in splendid unison. There is a wealth of comedians, who keep the fun going unflaggingly. Mr. Dan Danson tells many good stories as the Baron; Mr. Bert Allen, of diminutive stature, is a grotesque figure as the detective; the Slaters are rare artistes, and their by-play is always good. Mr. Rex Kempton is smart as Soft Sammy, and Mr. Dan Lyall is capital. Mr. Walter Rayner scores as the Demon King, and is foiled well in all his evil work by Miss Mavis Muir, who is a charming Fairy. The specialities of the Four Krays meet with approval, and the dressing and scenery are alike excellent.

HIPPODROME.—Managing-Director, Mr. Frank Macnaghten; Manager, Mr. A. W. Turpin.—Messrs. M. Montgomery and Jazon's pantomime company effected another success here on Monday night, for a good house accorded them a hearty welcome. "Robinson Crusoe" is well written, and the story follows the familiar

THE SHOWMAN WORLD

(COPYRIGHT.)

P. Collins's Birmingham Carnivals.

The Empire's premier showman, Mr. P. Collins, controls a number of Christmas holiday carnivals. We have news to hand of the two fairs under his banner at Birmingham. Our special correspondent writes: "The Monument-road Carnival is under the roof of the vast building erected for a skating rink, and is situated in a populous part of the city, well served by a continuous tram-car system. The carnival building is bright, well decorated, and cosy."

The chief novelties of the fair include Mr. Collins's motor-car track, the Brooklyn cake-walk machine, the jolly joy wheel, and the Haunted Castle; Prof. Piper's Mexican knife-throwing experts, Birch's miniature animal zoo, and G. Hitchcock's fine art gallery.

The variety stalls, throwing games, hoop-las, and coker sheets were by Messrs. J. Brown, R. Deeks, J. Gandtz, J. Hampton, W. Young, Darby Wilkes, Hampton, Stephen, Mrs. Collins, Mrs. Hayes, and Mrs. Bettaney.

The Tower-street Fair.

Mr. P. Collins's second venture in Birmingham is located in Tower-street, and draws its crowd from a densely populated area in the Midland capital. In addition to the exhibits of the lessee, the following amusement caterers provide helter skelter, aerial flight, gem horses, football frames, roll-up boards, coker sheets, Japanese billiards, and variety stalls: Messrs. James Brown, S. Collett, D. Jones, W. Chaplain, G. Roberts, J. Gandtz, E. Humphreys, M. Jervois, and Mrs. Hayes.

P. Collins's Birkenhead Fairs.

The lessee provided the grand scenic railway, the steam yachts, the Teddy Bear roundabouts, and the optical puzzle—the Hall of Laughter. The shows were C. Relph's Lilliputian Marvels, Bedford's miniature zoo, and Lennard's novelty booth; shooting gallery by Wright; and games in well ordered variety. Hoop-las and novelty stalls by Messrs. Hall, Cooper, Wright, Humphrey, Cordwell, and Duck. Mr. H. C. Humphries, Mr. P. Collins's manager at Birkenhead, is to be congratulated on the excellent order and arrangement of the fair, which attracted thousands of visitors daily.

Sheffield Christmas Fair.

The greatest winter fair in Yorkshire is the one at Sheffield. A great number of showpeople make that city their winter quarters, the Corporation Fairground being crowded for three or four weeks with shows, machines, and stalls, and during both the Christmas and New Year holidays good business is done. The shows include the well-known concerns of Messrs. E. Farrar and Son, J. Ling, E. Ball, J. Buckley, and T. White; the machine novelties are exhibited by Messrs. Farrar and Tyler, W. H. Marshall, J. W. Waddington, Goldthorpe, Marshall, A. Richard, G. T. Tuby and Sons, and M. Lieske; variety stalls, bazaars, throwing games, shooting saloons, and all the fun of the fair by Messrs. W. H. Doubtfire, W. Steward, Ashcroft Brothers, J. Amos, Dunwell Johnson, A. Richards, jun., E. Calver, Middlebrook Brothers, W. Holdsworth, J. Burgess, A. Barker, T. Chapman, A. Cox, W. Ratcliffe, Messrs. Wright and Co., A. Manders, T. Lever, G. T. Tuby, jun., C. Johnson, G. Beasley, J. Arnold, G. Bradley, H. Barnes, W. Fawcett, J. Moore, Mrs. John Seed, Mrs. Banks, Mrs. Foster, and Mrs. Illingworth.

Bolton New Year Fair.

Bolton New Year Fair draws its crowds from the thickly-populated cotton-spinning towns of Lancashire. Its proximity to Manchester, Blackburn, Burnley, Darwen, Accrington, and other big centres of industrial life makes the fair at New Year one of the best gathering of popular amusements in Great Britain. The Corporation very wisely provides all the open spaces at its command for the fair, with the result that a big sum by way of tolls goes into the borough treasury. There is a special feature about the fair that is characteristic of Bolton and no other town. On New Year Eve the showmen wait until the midnight hour strikes, and then in an instant a blaze of light and outburst of music from the organs on the fairground, and the fun of the fair begins. Thousands of people stay up to "let in the New Year," and the revels of the open carnival of the fair continue until the small hours of New Year Day.

The Fun and Comradeship of the Fair.

The greater part of the shows' machines and amusements are pitched upon the Wholesale Market ground. Here are the well-known shows on the Lancashire Circuit, the concerns of Kemp, Sedgwick, Relph, and small side-shows; the machines of John Green, Mitchell and Sons, Hurst and Son, and John Collins; shooting saloons of Messrs. Cornwell, Jewell, and others; with throwing games, stalls, &c., in well-ordered array. The other contingent of amusements occupy the Town Hall Square. Messrs. P. Collins, John Collins, Sedgwick, Clark Bros., and a crowd of small novelty providers cater for the people at this centre of the fair. Mr. R. Pike, the courteous and energetic market superintendent, sets out the fair for the Corporation, and everything is done to make the New Year Fair at Bolton a success. It is a striking illustration of what can be done for the entertainment of the people when Corporation and showmen combine in catering for the holiday crowds.

Guild Meetings in 1913.

The attention of our readers is called to the notice in our showmen advertisements of the forthcoming business meeting of the Guild at Manchester on the 15th. The London meeting, fixed for the 22nd, at the World's Fair (by kind permission of Mr. T. E. Read), will be duly announced in our columns.

Norwich Holiday Fairs.

The Norwich Christmas Fair opened on Boxing Day, and was well patronised. Among the shows were Thurston and Sons' joy-wheel; C. and H. Thurston's motors; Barker and Thurston's gondolas; Charles Thurston's motors; Stock's roundabouts; Mrs. W. Abbot's shooting gallery; Hearn's doll saloons; Bond's saloon and football; W. Westrop's shooting gallery; J. H. Norman's doll saloon; Dabb and Co.'s waxworks; Charles Summence's football; George Hearn's, R. Parkin's shooting galleries; Parker's strikes; cokernut shies by Stock, C. Abbott, John Holmes; Smith's freaks; E. G. Angood's sweetstuff; W. A. Cheeseman's saloons; Gizzie's swings. Mr. Chas. Thurston, with his usual enterprise, opened the Agricultural Hall, where he did good business with his motors. There were several side-shows included in the above, which seemed to do good business. In addition, Mr. Thurston had his "on the mat" and his handsome gilded vaudeville "Cinema" on the Hill.

The Bostock Jungle in Sheffield.

The Jungle has been a "greater success than ever" during the past festive season, and the "four shows daily" have met with strong support from Sheffielders and their country cousins. The giant Christmas-tree has been the joy and wonder of the children, and the gigantic assemblage of amusements, including the arenic performances, the great menagerie, the procession of elephants and camels, the amusing baboons, "Mary Ellen," the favourite baby elephant, the monkey-house, and the Fun Fair have all had their thousands of delighted supporters.

New Patents.

This list is specially compiled for "The Era" by Messrs. Rayner and Co., registered patent agents, of 37, Chancery-lane, London, from whom all information relating to patents, designs, trade marks, etc., can be obtained gratuitously.

LATEST PATENT APPLICATIONS.

26,810.—Alva M. Ricks. Amusement devices. Nov. 21.

26,939.—Thomas Francis Noon and William James Millington. Flashlight appliance. Nov. 23.

27,046.—Lewis Arthur Hackett and Ernest William Whattam. Live rails and collectors of electric roundabouts, scenic railways, and the like. Nov. 25, 1912.

27,714.—John James Kerr. Exhibition of performances, pictures, living pictures, and the like. Nov. 26, 1912.

27,551.—Hazel Bess Laugenour. Stage appliance for use in displaying the art of swimming. Nov. 29, 1912.

27,680.—James Brodie Lawrie. Bowling-green bowls. Dec. 2.

27,750.—William Henry Goldson. Lenses for illuminated signs, and the like. Dec. 2.

28,138.—Heinrich W. Bender. Illuminated advertisement sign. Dec. 6.

28,349.—Albert George Grundell. Electric automatic or hand-operated indicator or signal, combining advertisement display, to be used in public places. Dec. 9, 1912.

28,367.—Auguste Harry Brackensieck. Controlling apparatus for proscenium and other curtains. Dec. 9, 1912.

28,370.—Albert Harrison Moorhouse. Apparatus for producing various sound effects for theatrical and like purposes. Dec. 9, 1912.

28,581.—Milner's Safe Co., Ltd., and Clement Anderson Ely. Mechanism for retarding the lowering of roller blinds or shutters, screens, fire-proof curtains, and like appliances. Dec. 11, 1912.

28,672.—Edward William Little. Bicycle roundabouts. Dec. 12, 1912.

28,747.—Bert Hughes. Game more particularly intended for stage or spectacular effect. Dec. 13, 1912.

28,976.—Karl Schumann. Apparatus for registering the result of counting-devices upon bills and vouchers. Dec. 16.

29,003.—Percy Parker. Advertising plaque. Dec. 17.

29,022.—William Lebbern and George Edward Windebank. Fire-escape. Dec. 17.

29,080.—Joseph William Robinson. Counting-mechanisms. Dec. 17.

29,099.—Julius Pietsch. Illuminated fountains. Dec. 17.

29,111.—Kitty Allson. Recitation illustrated by living pictures. Dec. 17.

29,201.—William Goulton. Illuminators or reflectors applicable to electric or other advertising signed, and the like. Dec. 19.

29,205.—George Prescott. Ticket-punching apparatus. Dec. 19.

29,332.—John Norris and William Ebenezer Pittard. Moving-figure targets. Dec. 20.

29,339.—Roderic Maxwell Hill. Advertising devices. Dec. 20.

29,412.—Jabez W. Wedderburn and William A. Webber. Coin-freed apparatus. Dec. 20.

SPECIFICATIONS PUBLISHED.

24,707.—Gunning. Apparatus for lighting and extinguishing lights at predetermined times.

24,917.—Buechner. Method of presenting projected images.

2,123.—Barsby. Amusement device.

19,586.—Miller. Handle-bar mechanism for pleasure railways.

27,108.—Bouracier. Amusement apparatus.

161.—Hutchinson and Fred Wilkins and Brother, Ltd. Illuminated indicating device or sign.

2,494.—Cooley. Race game apparatus.

4,974.—Joel. Electrically-operated means or devices for exhibiting advertisements, pictures, notices, or the like.

13,396.—Bruyas. Apparatus for projecting fire-extinguishing, or other powder.

17,218.—Bubeck. Money-changing apparatus.

26,820.—Crisp. Automatic advertising machines.

27,007.—Grundy and Browne. Illuminated signs, illuminated advertisements, and the like.

28,998.—Simpkin. Roundabouts.

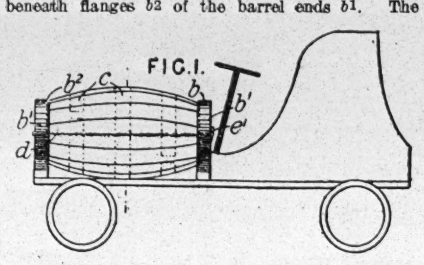
18,901.—Rodeck. Public amusement devices.

27,255.—Chaumeret. Safety doors opening only from the interior.

27,521.—Le Maitre. Moving targets and apparatus to be used in connection therewith.

LATEST PUBLISHED ABSTRACTS.

"AUTOMATIC MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS" (17,140, of 1911).—Three musical instruments, or the three manuals of an organ, are operated by electro-pneumatic or electric means controlled by a single tune-sheet, which is of the kind described in Specification 2,167/11. The tune-sheet comprises two conducting-layers *b*, *c*, which are connected to a battery *n* by wires *f*, *g* and brushes *b*1, *c*1. Insulating-layers are placed between the layers *b*, *c* and upon both faces of the tune-sheet. A single note-controlling brush *e* is shown, which is adapted to contact with one of the conducting-layers *b*, *c* or the tracker-bar. If the brush *e* contacts with the layer *b*, a current passes from the battery *n* through the wire *f*, brush *b*1, layer *b*, brush *e*, wire *m*, and electro-magnets *i*, back to the battery. Permanent magnets *j* are arranged near the electro-magnets. The current passes through the electro-magnets in opposite directions. The field of one of the permanent magnets *j* is therefore neutralised, while the field of the other is strengthened, so that one of the armatures *k* is attracted, and the corresponding valve *l* is opened against the action of the weight *o*1. Air is then admitted to a duct, and a note of one manual or musical instrument is sounded. The armature *k* may operate directly upon the note-producing device. If the brush *e* contacts with the layer *c*, current passes through the electro-magnets *i* in the opposite direction, and another valve *l* is operated to sound a note of another manual or musical instrument. Permanently energised electro-magnets may be substituted for the permanent magnets *j*. If the aperture is right through the tune-sheet, the brush *e* connects together a number of insulated metal strips *p* in the tracker-bar, so causing current to flow from a battery *n*1 through an electro-magnetic device to sound a note of the third manual or musical instrument. Alternatively, the aperture may admit air to a pneumatic device for sounding a note. The tracker-bar comprises an insulating bar having transverse grooves, which are filled by bundles of contact strips *p*1, *p*2 separated by insulation *p*3. A bundle is shown in Fig. 5 in an expanded condition. Alternatively, the tracker-bar may be made of conducting material and connected to the battery *n*1.

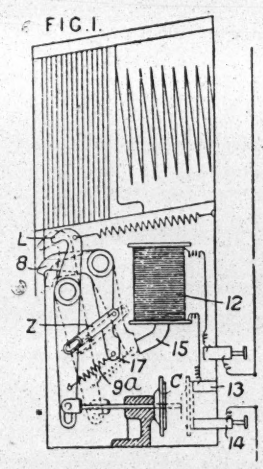


"THEATRICAL APPLIANCES."—(18, 264 of 1911).—An imitation automobile for use on the stage has a part, such as the bonnet over the engine, so constructed that it can be collapsed at any desired moment for the purpose of imitating an explosion. The bonnet is built up of staves *b* like a barrel, and the ends of the staves engage beneath flanges *b*2 of the barrel ends *b*1. The

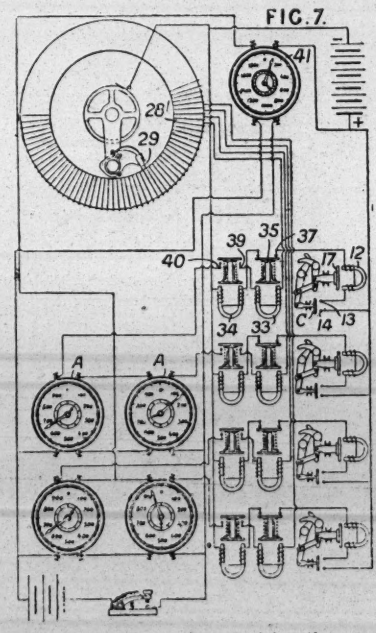
ends are held in position by a rope *d*, which is fastened to one end, and, passing through a hole in the opposite end, is secured by a wedge *e*1. A number of springs *c* are arranged inside the barrel so that when the wedge *e*1, is withdrawn, the ends of the barrel are released and the staves are shot in all directions.

Printed copies of the specifications can be obtained from Messrs. Rayner and Co. at the price of 1s.

ISSUING TICKETS (18,862 of 1911).—In the type of apparatus described in Specification 25,675/10, the downward movement of the ticket forces over the bell-crank lever 8, Fig. 1, to bring the armature 17 into contact with the core 15 of the magnet 12

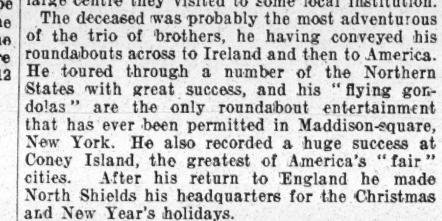


as shown in dotted lines. The finger L, which is connected to the lever 8 by a slotted link Z and a spring 9a, is prevented from moving forward until, on the continued movement of the ticket, a notch therein comes in front of the finger L. The spring 9a then moves the finger L into the position shown in dotted lines, and causes the plate C to close



the contacts 13, 14, thereby energizing the magnet 12 to retain the armature 17 and the finger L in position to prevent the further issue of tickets. The revolving cylinder described in the above-mentioned specification is replaced by a commutator, comprising a revolving brush 29, Fig. 7, and a series of circularly arranged contacts 28¹, each of which corresponds to a ticket compartment. The closing of the contacts 13, 14, also energises a magnet 34, and closes contacts 39, 40, which are normally open, so that, when the brush 29 passes over the corresponding contacts 28¹, the individual ticket counter A and the totaliser 41 are actuated. The completion of this circuit also energises a magnet 33, which, through its armature 35, breaks the circuit at the points 37, 38, which contacts are normally closed, thus allowing all parts to return to their original positions, and permitting the issue of a further ticket.

"Signs" (19,736 of 1911). Relates to a sign or advertisement, comprising a box 1 with one or more faces bearing advertisements, and provided with means for evenly distributing the light over the advertisements. This is effected by providing the lamps 3 with gauze or graduated screens 6, and inclined plates 4, 5, all those of a series reflecting the light in one direction being semi-reflecting except the last one, which is a simple reflector. The lamps may be provided with lenses 8. Daylight illumination may be employed by providing the apparatus with suitably situated windows. Prismatic reflectors may be employed. The illumination may be intermittent and in changing



colours, this effect being produced by the use of a slotted drum driven by the heated air and surrounding the lamps.

DEATH OF MR. WALTER MURPHY.

The death of Mr. Walter Murphy, which took place on New Year's Eve, removes one of the best-known showmen in the North of England.

Three months ago he went through an operation for an old-standing trouble in the head. Great hopes were entertained of his recovery, but complications setting in, he was obliged to enter Grosvenor Nursing Home, North Shields, where he passed away. As a show proprietor, his figure was a familiar one at fair grounds in the North of England.

Mr. Murphy was born at Leeds forty-seven years ago, and was a member of one of the oldest families of showmen and public entertainers in the United Kingdom.

He was a son of the late Mr. Walter Murphy, who died twenty-nine years ago, and was the youngest of three brothers who have toured the country for a quarter of a century with roundabouts, etc.

Mr. William Murphy, one of these brothers, is at present at the Pavilion Grounds, Sunderland, where he has provided fairs at the principal holidays for many years. The other brother, Mr. John Murphy, who is in the same line of business, has his fixed residence at South Shields. Mr. Johnson, grandfather of the three brothers, was the first of the family to go in for the roundabout business. Later, Mr. Murphy's father and mother started with a shooting-gallery and afterwards introduced other attractions, including roundabouts of the old-fashioned type, which had to be manipulated by hand.

During recent years the three brothers with the "scenic" railways, gondolas, motor cars, all forms of roundabouts and magnificent and costly "fit-ups," have amused millions of people, and, incidentally, have been the means of raising large sums for charities, it having been the custom of the brothers to devote a day's takings in each large centre they visited to some local institution.

The deceased was probably the most adventurous of the trio of brothers, he having conveyed his roundabouts across to Ireland and then to America. He toured through a number of the Northern States with great success, and his "flying gondolas" are the only roundabout entertainment that has ever been permitted in Maddison-square, New York. He also recorded a huge success at Coney Island, the greatest of America's "fair" cities. After his return to England he made North Shields his headquarters for the Christmas and New Year's holidays.

The deceased showman leaves a widow, three sons, and two daughters, and it is understood that his sons will continue to carry on the business.

The Funeral.

The interment took place at Preston Cemetery, North Shields, amid many tokens of esteem and sympathy, for in spite of the continous rainfall, there was a large attendance. The coffin was brought from the Grosvenor Nursing Home to the fair ground at Coach-lane, and placed upon trestles. The Rev. John Clayton, of St. Andrew's Congregational Church, North Shields, conducted a short memorial service, and delivered an address of appreciation, dwelling upon the deceased gentleman's high character. A procession was then formed, the hearse being drawn by a team of four horses, and followed by about twenty carriages. Mr. Murphy was a member of the De Ogle Lodge of Freemasons, Morpeth, and a large number of Masonic brethren attended, each wearing a sprig of acacia as a buttonhole.

The principal mourners were Mr. Walter Murphy, Mr. Tom Murphy, Mr. Harry Murphy (sons), Miss Hilda Murphy and Miss Lena Murphy (daughters), Mr. John Murphy (brother), and Mrs. Murphy, Mr. W. Murphy (brother), Mrs. Murphy and son, Mr. T. Seddon, Mrs. Harrison, Mr. W. Harrison, Mr. Harry Harrison, Mr. Arthur Harrison, Mr. Harry Wallis, Miss Hetty Wallis, Mr. and Mrs. Hoadley, Mr. and Mrs. T. Toogood, Misses Martha and Dolly Toogood, Mr. Frank Newsome, Mr. T. Newsome, Mr. James Newsome, Mr. Harry Miller, Mr. and Mrs Powell, Mr. Payne and son, Mr. Baker and sister, Mr. and Mrs. Knight, and Mr. Caris.

A large number of persons connected with fairs and other travelling entertainments from the surrounding districts also attended the obsequies.

The arrangements were carried out under the direction of Messrs. G. Davidson and Son, the undertaker being Mr. Gilbert Park.

PANTOMIME 1913–1914.

NOTICE TO MANAGERS.

Would produce at first class theatre only for 1913-14, or entertain sale,

Absolutely first-class production,

SINBAD THE SAILOR.

Now playing at Theatre Royal, Hanley.

Acknowledged the best pantomime ever seen in the district. Refer Mr. Chas. G. Ephinstone, T.R, Hanley.

Can be seen playing Hanley until Jan. 25.

Apply—

C. St. JOHN DENTON,
56, Whitcomb Street,
Leicester Square, W.C.

SCALE OF CHARGES FOR ARTISTES WANTING ENGAGEMENTS And MANAGERS WANTING ARTISTES.

THREE LINES (ABOUT TWENTY WORDS) ONE SHILLING.
Each Additional Word, One Penny.

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Half Year	13s. 0d.	16s.
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For the convenience of Advertisers, Replies to Advertisements are received. They can remain until called for, or be forwarded by Post if postage be arranged.

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"The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-st., Strand, W.C.
"Wire," "The Era, London."
"Ring-up," 4747 or 1433 Central.

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TWENTY WORDS, ONE SHILLING.
Each additional word, One Penny.

MILTON BODE and EDWARD COMPTON'S THEATRES.

WANTED, First-class Companies for KENNINGTON THEATRE, S.E., April 14, 21, May 19, June 2, Aug. 4, 11, 18, 25, Sept. 15, 29, on.
DALSTON THEATRE, LONDON, N.E., March 17, 24, April 14, 21, May 5, 12, Aug. 18, 25, on.
COUNTY THEATRE, READING, Jan. 23 (3 nights), Feb. 24, March 3, 10, 17, 31, on.
OPERA HOUSE, LEICESTER, March 10, Aug. 11 18, Sept. 1, 8, Oct. 13. Dec. 1 8, on.
ROYALTY THEATRE, CHESTER. Dec. 15 and Xmas for Good Pantomime.
GRAND THEATRE, WOLVERHAMPTON, Feb. 17, March 3, 10, April 21, May 12, 19, Aug. 4, 11, 18, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, HUDDERSFIELD, April 21, May 5, 12, Aug. 11, 18, 25, on.
OPERA HOUSE, NORTHAMPTON. March 3, 24, May 12, Aug. 4, 11, 18, 25, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, LEICESTER, March 24, April 7, 14, 28, May 12, 19, 26, on.
Address, Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, Good Company for Reading (3 nights), Jan. 23, 24, and 25, and Feb. 24. Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

WANTED, First-class Pantomimes for next Christmas at:—
Opera House, Leicester, five and a half weeks.
Royalty Theatre, Chester, three weeks.
County Theatre, Reading, eight nights.
Dalston Theatre, four weeks.
Please say where can be seen.
Milton Bode, Theatre, Reading.

ROYAL ARTILLERY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, WOOLWICH.
Lessee and Manager, Jules Richeux.

WANTED, Wanted, First-class Attractions, May 5 and 12, and few autumn vacancies. Bookings: D'Oyly Carte, "Merry Widow," "Arcadians," "Our Miss Gibbs," "Kismet," "Milestones," "Ready Money," "The Quaker Girl," "Chocolate Soldier," Mrs. Langtry, "Waltz Dream," "Count of Luxembourg," "The Whip," "Glad Eye," "Bunty Pulls the Strings," "Sunshine Girl," "Drake," &c.
Re dates, Jay and Mann, 21, Maiden-lane, W.C.

WEYMOUTH NEW THEATRE.
The Most Charming Theatre on South Coast.
Seating capacity over 1,000.
Holding £120 at ordinary prices.
Open all the year round.

WANTED, First-class Companies, Jan. 27 (for Pantomime), Feb. 10, 17, March 3, 10, Easter, Whit., and on.
Re Dates, apply Jay and Mann, 21, Maiden-lane, W.C.
Other coms., W. R. Wallis, Manager.

WANTED, first-class Attractions only for COUNTY THEATRE, BEDFORD. Feb. 10, March 3, 17, 24, on.
GRAND THEATRE, LUTON. March 24, April 14, 21, May 12, on.
THEATRE ROYAL, CANTERBURY. Feb. 3, and onwards to Easter.
Address, E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford, re Bedford and Luton, and Mr. Wm. Holland, T.R., Canterbury, re Canterbury dates.

PIER THEATRE, EASTBOURNE.

WANTED, Wanted, Companies, Feb. 10, 24, March 10, 24 (Easter), and various dates onwards.
Apply, G. Hayes, Pier, Eastbourne.

THEATRE ROYAL, MARGATE.

WANTED, Feb. 10, on, exceptions, Panto. for Xmas, 1913. Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, WINDSOR.

WANTED, First-class Attractions for March 10 and 17, April 7, 14, 21, 28, May 12 (Whit.). Also Autumn. Apply, J. E. Bull, as above.

WORTHING THEATRE ROYAL.

WANTED, first-class Companies, three nights and one matinée, Feb. 3, 10, 13, 17, March 3, 6, also two nights only March 10 and 11, several dates onwards.
Apply, C. A. Seebold, as above.

THEATRE ROYAL, PETERBOROUGH.
Lessee, Lieut.-Colonel J. A. Winstanley.

WANTED, High-class Attractions, Feb. 3, 10, 17 (three nights each).
All communications re dates, Adams' Agency, Broadmead House, Panton-st., Haymarket, S.W.

KEMBLE THEATRE, HEREFORD.
A Magnificent New Theatre, holding £100.
Lowest price of admission, 1s.

WANTED, High-class Attractions for the Autumn.
All communications re dates, Adams' Agency, Broadmead House, Panton-street, S.W.
Tele., "Shrieking Charles, London" (2 words).

THEATRE ROYAL, BARNSTAPLE.

WANTED, Companies, two nights, musical or comedy preferred. Apply, T. H. Tresise, The Strand, Barnstaple.

THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.
THEATRE ROYAL, DARLINGTON.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, either once or twice nightly.
March 3, 10, 31.
March 3, 10, 31.
James Bell.

THEATRE ROYAL, SWANSEA.
This newly constructed, redecorated, and refurnished theatre is now open for staging the very best productions on the road.

WANTED, Grand Opera, Musical Comedy, High-class Plays, Pantomimes, and every other kind of money-making attraction.
Vacant dates to William Coutts, Proprietor.

COMPANIES WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Companies.
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. WANTED,
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. STAR
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. ATTRACTIONS
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. FOR
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. THE
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. FOLLOWING
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. DATES,
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER. ——
NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
Vacant, March 17, 31, May 5, June 2, 9, 16. onward, with exceptions.

EMPIRE, WORCESTER.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
(Arrangements complete.)

THEATRE ROYAL, TONYPANDY.
Vacant, Early Spring Dates.

THEATRE ROYAL, BARRY.
Vacant, Early Spring Dates.

KING'S THEATRE, GAINSBOROUGH.
Vacant, Early Spring Dates.

KING'S ELECTRIC THEATRE, BARRY.
Pictures and Bijou Vaudeville.
(Arrangements complete.)

MANAGERS, PLEASE SEND VACANCIES.

"CINDERELLA," vacant Jan. 27.
"BABES IN THE WOOD," vacant Feb. 3.
"RED RIDING HOOD," vacant Feb. 3.
"ROBINSON CRUSOE," Feb. 3.

All communications to
ARTHUR CARLTON, RAVENSCOURT, WORCESTER.

ROYALTY THEATRE AND OPERA HOUSE, BARROW-IN-FURNESS.
Lessee and Manager, Mr. Hugh Robertson.
WANTED, First-class Attractions for March 17, 31, April 7, 14, 21, on, with exceptions.
Open to treat with first-class management for a three months' Stock Season from about the first week in May.
Applications for dates to
Hugh Robertson, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

WANTED, First-class Attractions only.
T.R., DUBLIN, March 31, April 7, 28.
G.T., DUBLIN, May 19.
O.H., BELFAST, Feb. 17, 24, March 17, 24, May 12.
O.H., CORK, Feb. 24, April 7, 28, May 5.
G.T., SWANSEA, June 2.
G.T., SOUTHAMPTON, Feb. 10 (3 nights), May 5.
T.R., BOURNEMOUTH, March 17, 31 (?).
P.P.T., BRIGHTON, Feb. 17, March 31.
HIPPODROME, DARLINGTON, April 14.
Apply, The Fredk. Mouillot Offices,
1, King-st., Covent Garden, W.C.

METROPOLE, GLASGOW, LTD.

Vive le drama!

Mr. Fredk. Melville's play (second visit),
"MARRIED TO THE WRONG MAN,"
has eclipsed

all New Year

week records.

And doing "only side seats left, madam," business this week.

WANTED, People's Topic Plays,
March 10,
April 28,
Aug. 11,
and various, 1914.
Address, Arthur Jefferson,
132, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C.
Wires, "Aitenev, Ox, London."
'Phone, Regent 1480.

LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH.
WANTED, through disappointment, Good Company, Jan. 20 (week).
H. W. Rowland, Theatre, Folkestone.

EMPIRE THEATRE, TONYPANDY.
The above Magnificent Building having been Purchased by
SAM DUCKWORTH,
is now in the full tide of success.

This beautifully-equipped Theatre cost £16,000, and is up to date in every detail. Magnificent Band of 10 musicians, complete staff before and behind the curtain, and without doubt there is no other theatre in the Rhondda Valley that can compare with it for comfort, size, and the excellent business done since the new management took it over.
Will Managers refer to Mr. S. R. Squires, "Leah Kleschna," and Mr. G. Carlton Wallace, "The Apple of Eden," as to the magnificent business done the last two weeks.
WANTED, Feb. 3 (?), Feb. 17 (?), and various on. Share or certainty. Companies playing Pentre or Porth need not apply.
Sam Duckworth, Empire Theatre, Tonypandy.

THE PIER AND GRAND PAVILION, COLWYN BAY.
WANTED, Latest Musical and Farcical Comedies, Star Actors and Actresses, Opera, in fact anything with a London reputation that can draw money.
Vacancies, Jan. 13 (?), February, Whitsuntide, July 14 week, September and October, with exceptions.
Colwyn Bay has the largest residential population of any seaside town in North Wales.
"Hindle Wakes" opened to over £100. Refer to Mr. Edwin T. Heys, who was surprised at the business; but it shows Colwyn Bay can do business both in and out of season.
"East Lynne," a splendid 3 nights. Refer Mr. J. Pitt-Hardacre.
W. Yates Gregory, General-Manager.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE, CARLISLE.
Lessee and Manager, Sidney Bacon.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, April 7, Sept. 1, on.
Address,
Sidney Bacon, 143, Charing Cross-road, London, W.C.
Telephone, Gerrard 1456.
Telegrams, "Nocabdis-Ox-London."

THEATRE ROYAL,
ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE.
WANTED, First-class Attraction, Feb. 10.
Address,
Charles Revill, T.R., Stockport.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Jarrow, First-class Attraction for Feb. 17. Only vacant date at present.
Apply, Hugh Robertson, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Attractions.
April 14, and Autumn.
Address, T. Allan Edwardes.

PALACE THEATRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE
WANTED, Wanted, Strong Attractions (twice nightly),
March 31, April 7, 21, 28, May 19, and later.
Apply, T. W. Rowe.

GRAND THEATRE, ACCRINGTON.
WANTED, First-class Companies, for March 17, April 7, 21 (?), 28, and May. Fred. W. Green.

ROYAL COURT THEATRE, WARRINGTON.
WANTED, Good Company, April 14.
State what certainty required.
Apply, H. L. Warburton, Acting-Manager.

COMPANIES WANTED.

BOOKED BY MOSS' EMPIRES, LTD.
BROADWAY THEATRE, NEW CROSS.
WANTED, big Attractions for the following dates:—Aug. 18, Sept. 8 and 29, Oct. 13 and 20, Nov. 17, and Dec. 8.
GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.
Wanted, big Dramatic Attractions, Sept. 1, and Nov. 24.
GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.
Wanted, big Dramatic Attractions only for the following dates:—March 17 and 31, April 7, 14, 21, 28, May 5.
Write, with full particulars, to Moss' Empires, Cranbourn-street, London. Envelopes marked "Theatres."

SEVEN PROGRESSIVE THEATRES.
WANTED, High-class Companies,
CORONET THEATRE, LONDON, W.
March 10, 17, April 21, May 12, 19, June 2, 23.
FULHAM THEATRE, S.W.
March 3, 17, 24, 31, April 7, onwards.
DEVONSHIRE PARK T., EASTBOURNE.
Feb. 3, 24 (3). March 3, 10, 17, 24.
GAIETY THEATRE, HASTINGS.
Feb. 24, March 3, 10 (3).
PLEASURE GARDENS, FOLKESTONE.
Feb. 27 (3). March 3, 13 (3).
OPERA HOUSE, TUNBRIDGE WELLS.
March 24 to May 12.
LYCEUM THEATRE, IPSWICH.
Jan. 20, Feb. 3, 24, March 3, 10, 17, April 21.
Apply, H. W. Rowland, Coronet Theatre, W.

MORTON POWELL THEATRES.
WANTED, Wanted. Powerful Plays.
BRITANNIA THEATRE, LONDON.
Spring Dates.

BORDESLEY PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.
Spring

QUEEN'S THEATRE, FARNWORTH.
Feb. 24, March 3, 10, 17.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SWINDON.

WANTED, First-class Musical and Dramatic Variety Attraction, March 10, 24, April 7, 14, May 19, 26, June 2, 9, 16, 23, on, with exceptions. Also Good Attractions, Musical, Variety, or Dramatic, Garrison T., Tidworth, Jan. 13, on, with exceptions.
ALFRED MANNERS.

WANTED, for Palace Theatre, Gloucester, First-class Musical Comedy Shows, once and twice nightly; vacant dates, March 3, 10, 17, 31, May 5, 12, 26, and various autumn dates. Wire or write, Rea, Palace, Gloucester.

GRAND THEATRE,
FALKIRK.

Resident-Manager, H. W. EBBUTT.

One of the most up-to-date theatres in Scotland. Entirely new electrical plant recently installed. The only fully licensed and equipped theatre in Stirlingshire.
Full stage, capable of mounting the largest productions touring.
Holding capacity over 2,000. Popular prices.
Now in 10th year of success and business excellent.
No vacant dates till autumn.
Now Booking Autumn and Spring, 1914.

WANTED, First-class attractions, Musical Comedies, or good Dramas, Sept. 8, 15, 22, Oct. 6 (3 nights), Nov. 3, 10, 17, and Spring, 1914.
Apply, H. W. Ebbutt, Resident-Manager.

WANTED, Wanted, good Pantomime. Jan. 27. For Weymouth.
Wire, Mann, Adelphi Theatre, W.C.

WANTED, High-class Attractions, also Musical Comedies and Pantos. (no heavy dramas), Feb. 10, 24, March 10, 31, April 7, 14, 21, 28.
Frank Wolsey, Lighthouse Pavilion, Hoylake.

WHITEHALL THEATRE,
EAST GRINSTEAD.

WANTED, Musical Comedy and Comedy Companies, Feb. 11 and 12, Feb. 25 and 26, two nights each. Address, Cecil Barth, The Little Theatre, Strand, W.C.

OPERETTA HOUSE, CLACTON-ON-SEA.
WANTED, Wanted, First-class Attractions, July, Aug., and Sept.
Only a few vacant dates.
Bookings include:—Carl Hertz and Co., "The Glad Eye" (return), "Jelf's," "Witness for the Defence," "Quaker Girl," &c.
A. E. Abrahams,
73, Romford-road, Stratford, E.

WANTED, Wanted, Companies.
GRAND THEATRE, W. HARTLEPOOL.
March 3.
THEATRE ROYAL, NORTH SHIELDS.
March 31.
OPERA HOUSE, WORKINGTON.
March 3, 10, and 31.
THEATRE ROYAL, WHITEHAVEN.
Feb. 24, March 3 (3), and 10.
GRAND THEATRE, LANCASTER.
March 13 (3), 24, April 21, 28, May 19, 26.
Stanley Rogers,
Theatre Royal, North Shields.

THE NEW PAVILION, PENZANCE

THE NEW PAVILION, NEWQUAY.

Two Finest Entertainment Halls in Cornwall. Seating capacity, 800 to 1,000 at each. Tip-up Seats. Electric Light throughout. Fixed Proscenium, Tableaux Curtains, &c.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, January, Musical Comedy, Drama, and Vaudeville or Concert Parties.
Apply, Manager, Pavilion, Penzance.

ROTUNDA THEATRE, LIVERPOOL.
Twice Nightly.
Twice Nightly.
WANTED, First-class Dramatic Attractions, March 17.
Apply, Matthew Montgomery.

WANTED, Pretoria, Okehampton; holds 300 (main line, Exeter-Plymouth); scenery, piano, electric light; 65 per cent. to 80 per cent. Tel. address, "Vide," Okehampton.

GRAND THEATRE, RHYL.

WANTED, First-class Attractions, Easter (last three nights only), Whit., June 30, and on. Also good pantomime, Jan.
Address, Chas. M. Julian, Manager, Jan. 6 and 13, Opera House, Cork.

NEW THEATRE, CAMBRIDGE.
WANTED, High-class Comedy and Musical Companies, several vacant dates in May; full term time. Redfern, Cambridge.

COUNTY THEATRE, BANGOR.
COUNTY THEATRE, BANGOR.
COUNTY THEATRE, BANGOR.
A first-class theatre run on first-class lines.
WANTED, High-grade Attraction for Feb. 3.
James Hare, Proprietor.

GAIETY THEATRE, AYR.
WANTED, London Attractions
Feb. 6 (3 nights), Feb. 20 (3 nights).
March 10, 31, April 14, 21, May 5, 19, 26.
Harry W. Day.

SHODFRIARS' HALL, BOSTON.
Lessee and Manager, Harold H. Dodds.
Newly decorated. Stage enlarged.
All new scenery and proscenium.
New tip-up seating and new lighting.
WANTED, Companies, Jan. 27, Feb. 24, March 10, Easter, May 5, 6, 7, Boston Fair. Bookings in conjunction with New Arcadia Theatre, Skegness. Two nights Boston, one Skegness.

WANTED, Companies, Dramatic, with change of bill preferred, or good Pantomime, Feb. 10 and on. James Elphinstone, King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

COMPANIES WANTED.

THEATRE ROYAL, BRIGHTON.
WANTED, First-class Attractions, March 3, 10, 17, April 7, 14.
Address, Lawson Lambert, as above.

GRAND THEATRE, CROYDON.

WANTED, Strong Attraction, March 10, 1913.
'Phone, write, or call,
Dick Adams, Grand Theatre, Croydon.

SOUTH PARADE PIER,
SOUTHSEA.
WANTED, First-class Theatrical Attractions (not dramas),
June 30, July 21, Aug. 18, 25, Sept. 8.
No Other Vacant Dates.
Terms and fullest particulars,
F. G. Robson, Manager.

LEON VINT'S THEATRES.
WANTED, First-class Companies, musical preferred. Nuneaton, Prince of Wales' Theatre, Feb. 24, March 3, and 10; Rugby, Hippodrome, Feb. 24, March 10, onwards, with exceptions; Neath, Hippodrome, Feb. 10, March 10, 24, April 7, and 14; Port Talbot, Hippodrome, Sept. 1, 8 onwards. All communications to James J. Welch, c/o Leon Vint, 142, Long Acre, London, W.C.

WANTED, for the Prince of Wales Theatre, Salford, first-class Companies for Feb. 10, 17, and intermediates onward. Address, E. B. Goulden.

NEW RINK THEATRE, WREXHAM.

The Metropolis of North Wales.
Local population exceeds 90,000.

Now open for staging the finest productions on the road. Stage 50ft. by 40ft.
Pros. opening 36ft.

WANTED, Musical Comedies, Dramas, &c. First-class only.
Write,
W. Wood Winstanley, Manager, re dates, &c.

WANTED, all Dramatic Companies holding contracts for Empire, Hednesford, Staffs. Same are null and void, owing to change of proprietors. Write, R. A. Maddox, Marchfield, Park-avenue, Worcester, re confirmations, &c.

THEATRES WANTED.

"THE MONK AND THE WOMAN."
WANTED, Jan. Feb. 17,
Fredk. Melville, Lyceum Theatre, W.C.

"DRIVEN FROM HOME."
WANTED, March 10, 17, 24.
Andrew Melville, Empire T., Holloway, N.

Alexandre Dumas' Masterpiece,
"MONTE CRISTO,"
from the New Princes Theatre, W.C.
The entire production carried.
WANTED, March 10, 31, April 21, May 5,
Andrew Emm, Princes Theatre, W.C.

"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
"A ROYAL DIVORCE."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted, for this Phenomenal Attraction,
Weeks of March 31 and May 5.
Weeks of March 31 and May 5.
Wire or write to
W. W. Kelly, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"THE NEW EAST LYNNE."
"THE NEW EAST LYNNE."
The Most Successful Version Ever Written.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Weeks of Feb. 3 and 10.
Weeks of Feb. 3 and 10.
Once or twice nightly.
Wire or write to
W. W. Kelly, New Theatre Royal, Birkenhead.

"UNCLE TOM'S CABIN."
WANTED, Theatres or Halls, Jan. 20, on, with exceptions.
Big company. Full chorus, Negro specialities.
All the special scenery and printing.
Charles Harrington,
Theatre Royal, Bury St. Edmunds.

"EAST LYNNE."
WANTED, Jan. 27, Feb. 3 (3 nights), Feb. 10, 17, 24, March 3, 17, 24, 31.
J. Pitt Hardacre,
Royal Artillery T., Woolwich.

J. W. CORDINER & HARRY RICHARDSON'S COMPANY.
"THE COLOMBO GIRL,"
"THE COLOMBO GIRL,"
By Wilfred Carr.
Music by Harry Richardson.
WANTED, Wanted. Feb. 17, 24, March 3 and 24.
All communications, J. W. CORDINER, Managers' Club, 5, Wardour-street, W.

"THE DUST OF EGYPT."
Miss Jessica Waters and Mr. Arthur Poole.
WANTED, Easter, April 14, Aug. 11, 25, Sept. 1. George Waters, 4, Park-place, St. James's-street.

MR. BULMER'S ENTERPRISES.
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
Played by a Cast that spells SUCCESS.
Mr. John Worth. | Mr. Edwin Morton.
Mr. Evan Roland. | Mr. Reg. Oldroyd.
Mr. Fred Darby. | Mr. T. C. Glenville.
Miss Maude Steeples. | Miss Sybil Haughton.
Miss Nancy Newell. | Miss Freda Frederick,
and Miss Doris Brookes.
WANTED, Jan. 27, Jan. 27, Jan. 27, Feb. 3, 24, Easter.
Fred Bulmer,
To-day, P.O.W., Nuneaton; after, Olympia, Coalville.

"BONNIE MARY."
WANTED, Feb. 10 and 24. Wire, Charles Locke,
Stonehyrst-terrace, Crackenedge, Dewsbury.

Along the line the signal ran,
There is no play like "MAN TO MAN."
WANTED, Feb. 10, 24, March 3,
Lloyd and Bown, Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

"THE OLD FOLKS AT HOME."
A Perfect Production. Refer all Theatres Visited.
WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 27, March 3, Easter.
Lloyd and Bown, Queen's Theatre, Leeds.

"A BUTTERFLY ON THE WHEEL."
WANTED, Wanted. Good Theatre,
January 27.
January 27.
January 27.
Wire, H. Greville (to-day), T.R., Lincoln.
Jan. 13, Sheerness Hippodrome.

"HINDLE WAKES."
The play that is breaking all records.
WANTED, Wanted, Feb. 3, March 10.
All applications, Edwin T. Heys,
Mile End, Stockport.

DENNIS CLYDE and FRANK R. ROBERTSON'S TOUR.
"THE BLACK MASK."
(By arrangement with Mr. F. Marriott-Watson.)
WANTED, Whit, May 26, dates in June, July.
Clyde, 36, Saltoun-road, Brixton.

"THAT BRUTE SIMMONS."
The Comedy Farce.
From the Haymarket and Palace, London.
WANTED, Feb. 24, March 3 and 10.
Elliston, Grand Theatre, Leeds.

THEATRES WANTED.

ARTHUR HINTON AND LEILA ZILLWOOD'S COMPANIES.
ARTHUR HINTON AND LEILA ZILLWOOD'S COMPANIES.

THE ORIGINAL AND BEST.

A COLUMN OF WINNERS.

"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
"ALLAH'S ORCHARD."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

This is without doubt the finest Spectacular Production ever attempted beyond the precincts of the West-End.

Costumes, scenery, and general mounting unsurpassed.

Bevy of Beautiful Women.

Musical-Director.

In brief, absolutely the last word in up-to-date enterprise.

Managers delighted.

"To
Mr. Ainsley, of the Gaiety Theatre, Houghton-le-Spring, says: "The finest show that has visited his theatre since it was built."

Playing to packed houses nightly.

Hundreds turned away.

Owing to numerous requests, and the large demand for seats, playing Special Matinée on Saturday.

Every seat in circle and stalls booked last night (Wednesday), and all the seats taken for Saturday night.

Managers wishing to secure this Enormous Attraction, please note that "Allah's Orchard" is the success of 1913.

Wanted, Theatres,

March 3,
March 3,

March 17,
March 17,

March 24,
April 7,
onwards.

Communications re dates to
ARTHUR HINTON,
OPERA HOUSE, ST. HELENS.

"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
"HIS INDIAN WIFE."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

WANTED, Wanted, Theatres,

Jan. 20,
Jan. 20,

Jan. 27,
Jan. 27,

March 3 and 10,
March 3 and 10

April 7, 14, 21.
April 7, 14, 21.

May 5.
May 5.

"KING OF THE GIPSIES."
"KING OF THE GIPSIES."
By Miss Emma Litchfield.

Wanted, Theatres,
Wanted, Theatres,

Jan. 27,
Jan. 27,

Feb. 17.
Feb. 17.

March 17.
March 17,

March 31,
March 31,

April 14,
April 14,

May 5,
May 5,

and onwards.
and onwards.

ARTHUR HINTON and LEILA ZILLWOOD Wish to inform Managers they have secured

"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR,"
"A CLEVER IMPOSTOR,"
by the talented Authoress,
Miss Emma Litchfield.

Production,
LYRIC, HAMMERSMITH, Feb. 24.

Everything travelled, including a Horse.

Wanted, Theatres,
Wanted, Theatres,

March 3,
March 3,

April 14,
April 14,

May 5, May 12, and onwards.
May 5, May 12, and onwards.

NEW PRODUCTION.
NEW PRODUCTION.

Aug., 1913.
Aug., 1913.
Aug., 1913.

Title will be announced later.

Re Dates,
Mr. G. MORETON-WILLIAMS,
"Holmdene," 3, River Bank, Hampton Court.

Telephone, 1732 Kingston-on-Thames.

THEATRES WANTED.

MORTON POWELL'S ENTERPRISES.
WANTED, Wanted. Wanted, Dates,
"BROUGHT TO RUIN,"
Feb. 3, 10, 17.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"GIRL WITHOUT A HOME."
WANTED, Wanted. Wanted, Dates,
This Strong Attraction,
Aug. 4, 11, 18.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"GIRL'S TEMPTATION."
WANTED, Wanted. Wanted, Dates,
This Powerful Play,
Feb. 10, 17, 24.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"TWO LITTLE VAGABONDS."
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Dates,
Jan. 27, Feb. 3, 10.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"MILL GIRL TO MILLIONAIRESS."
WANTED, Wanted. Wanted, Dates,
Jan. 13, 27, Feb. 3, 10.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

BRITANNIA THEATRE,
LONDON, N.
Enormous Success
of
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
WANTED, Wanted, Big Theatre,
in Large City,
for next year,
for production of
"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."
One of the
greatest successes
seen for years.
"The Rose Garden."
A Magnificent Stage Picture.
Morton Powell, Britannia Theatre, London, N.

"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"NICK CARTER, DETECTIVE."
"IN A MAN'S POWER."
"IN A MAN'S POWER."
"IN A MAN'S POWER."
Both by Arthur Shirley and Ben Landeck
WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 27,
Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24,
March 10, 24
(South or Midlands preferred);
Also onward dates,
with exceptions.
J. Forbes Knowles,
Managers' Club,
5, Wardour-street, W.C.,
Telegrams, "Knowles, Playwright, London."

"A FATAL CROWN."
"A FATAL CROWN."
"A FATAL CROWN."
WANTED, First-class Theatres or Halls,
Jan. 20, Jan. 27.
Jan. 20, Jan. 27.
Jan. 20, Jan. 27.

An instantaneous success,
An instantaneous success,
Hippodrome, Stockton, and T.R., Leicester
Hippodrome, Stockton, and T.R., Leicester.

Record business.
Record business.
Undoubtedly the biggest spectacular show touring.
Over 50 people staged.
Wire immediately for Jan. 20, 27.
Jas. Bell,
T.R., Darlington.

"THE WITNESS FOR THE DEFENCE."
WANTED, Feb. 24, March 17, 24, April 7, 28, May 5, 12, &c. Spring Bookings: Gaiety, Hastings; Birmingham, Canterbury; D.P., Eastbourne; Yarmouth, Accrington, Bangor, Brighton, Margate, &c. Entire production carried.
Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

"THE WALLS OF JERICHO."
WANTED, tall, Juv. Gent., Character, Ad. vance Agent; good modern wardrobe. Call, Weathersby's Agency, 3, Bedford-street, W.C.

"ONE LIFE, ONE LOVE."
WANTED, Feb. 17 and March 3. Twice nightly. Wire, Charles Locke,
Stonehyrst-terrace, Crackenedge, Dewsbury.

Ireland's Representative Comedian,
CHALMERS MACKEY.
"THE WEARIN' O' THE GREEN."
"ROLLICKING RORY."
WANTED; no vacant dates till Spring, 1914.
Jan. 13, Opera House, Cork.

MR. BRANDON THOMAS'S COMPANY,
"CHARLEY'S AUNT."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Spring dates, Jan. 27.

Feb. 17 (Suburbs or South).

March 10, 17, 24 (Midlands).

April 14 (West or Midlands).

May 12, 19, 26.

Address, Cecil Barth,
The Little Theatre, Strand, W.C.

H. G. PELISSIER'S "FOLLIES."
WANTED, March 3, on, except., No. 1 towns.
Haldane Crichton, O.H., Coventry.

MADGE CRICHTON IN "ANN."
WANTED, Wanted, March 24, on.
Haldane Crichton, O.H., Coventry.

"A BLIND GIRL'S LOVE."
WANTED, Jan. 20, Feb. 10 and 17. Wire, Charles Locke,
Stonehyrst-terrace, Crackenedge, Dewsbury.

"THE PRIVATE SECRETARY."
EUGENE C. STAFFORD'S No. 1 CO.
WANTED, First-class Theatres for above, from Easter onwards. Would rent a good Provincial Theatre. Letters, Stafford, Biddenden, Kent.

WANTED, Theatres, "Aladdin" pantomime; full company of over 40 artistes; magnificent scenery and dresses; Feb. 3 and 10, to follow Opera House, Perth. Also "Little Red Riding Hood" pantomime, Feb. 17, to follow Lowestoft. Both companies guaranteed first-class, acknowledged by the press and managers to be two of the best pantos. of the year.
All applications to C. A. Seebold, Theatre, Worthing.

"THE 10.30 DOWN EXPRESS."
WANTED, Jan. 27, April 14, and Whit, to precede Nottingham, Mansfield, Worksop, Bangor, Gloucester, Dublin, Aston, Elephant, Hammersmith, &c. Horace Stanley, 11 Grove-place Claypit-lane, Leeds.

"SILVER KING" CO.
POLINI AND MELFORD.
WANTED, Feb. 17, 24. Twice nightly if required. Address, G. M. Polini, 93, Penge-road, London, S.E.

"DIANA OF DOBSON'S."
WANTED, First-class Theatres, Feb. 24, March 3, 10, 31. Entire actual Kingsway Theatre production. Bookings include all principal provincial and suburban theatres.
Harold V. Neilson, Kingsway Theatre, W.C.

MR. and MRS. WILSON BENGE'S CO.
"THE COWBOY'S REVENGE."
WANTED, Feb. 17, 24, March 17, 24, 31 (Wales or Midlands), April 7, 14, 21, May 12, 19, 26, July 7, 28 (Lancs. or Yorks.), various Autumn. Bookings, Met. and Osborne, Manchester; Hippodrome, Preston; Hip., Salford, Woolwich, Stratford, South Shields, &c. Letters, Theatre Royal, Swansea.

THEATRES WANTED.

H. Montague Ashley and Campbell Goldsmid's Companies.
"WITH EDGED TOOLS."
(By arrangement with Armitage and Leigh.)
Owing to the enormous success of the above Messrs. Ashley and Goldsmid have decided to tour the above right through 1913.
Vacant dates:
Jan. 27, Feb. 10.
Wire, Wire, Wire.
Also August Bank, onwards, with exceptions.
"UNDER THE CANOPY."
The Great Russo-Jewish Play.
By J. James Hewson.
Magnificent New Production. Exceptional Cast of 16 Artistes, including
Maud Morton Powell,
as Naomi.
And
Campbell Goldsmid,
as General Ivan Petravno.
Note.—No expense will be spared to make the above production the finest on the road.

WANTED, August Bank (Big Theatre), for Production, Aug. 18, follow Britannia Theatre (pencilled), precede Lyric, Hammersmith, Sept. 1, 8, 29, Nov. 3, 10, 17 (South or West).
All coms.,
To-day, Alex., Pontefract.
Next week, T.R., ASTON.

"LUCKY MISS CHANCE."
"LUCKY MISS CHANCE."
Something New in Musical Plays.
By W. T. Ivory and Kenneth Morrison.
Production, Monday next Jan. 13,
Alex. Theatre, Pontefract.
All star cast, including,
Miss Geraldine Verner
(title-rôle, "Girl From Nowhere."),
Misses Phyllis Spalding, Amey Abercrombie,
Miss Maudi Sheila
(title-rôle, "Miss Hook of Holland"),
Messrs. Charles Shipley, Frank Lester, Dudley Middleton, Victor V. Norreys.
Raymunde M. Lancaster (Mus.-Dir.),
Mr. Gus Danby (late Tweedlepunch, "Florodora").
Les Penserosa Belles (dancers).
Managers invited to see this show

WANTED, Jan. 27, 27, 27, 27, 27.
Wanted, Feb. 3, 3, 3, 3, 3.
W. T. Ivory,
Alex. Theatre, Pontefract.

WANTED, First-class Theatre, Scotland only.
"THE ARCADIANS."
March 17.
Also Theatre or Music Hall, South or Midland,
"ALADDIN" Pantomime,
Jan. 27,
once or twice nightly.
follow G.T., Croydon.

Apply, F. Leslie Moreton,
1, King-street, Covent Garden, W.C.

GEORGE N. BALLANGER'S
"YOUNG BUFFALO" CO. in
"KING OF THE WILD WEST."
WANTED, March 10, 31, May 5, 12, a few Autumn dates. Offers invited.
Frank Mundill, Opera House, Burton.
Next, Hippodrome, Huddersfield.

"THE SORROWS OF SATAN."
and
"NANA, THE RAGE OF PARIS."

WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 20 (?) and 27.
Loie Esmond. To-day, Alexandra T., Pontefract.
Jan. 13, Theatre Royal, Goole.

"A TRIP TO CHINATOWN."
The famous Strand Theatre Musical Comedy.
WANTED, March 3, April 21, Aug. 4 and 18.
Once or twice nightly.
Harold Wagner, Queen's Theatre, Longton.

"ALIAS JIMMY VALENTINE," and
"SHERLOCK HOLMES."
WANTED, First-class Theatres,
Feb. 17, March 24, 31, April 7.
Hamilton Stewart, Grand T., Accrington.

O. SILVERSTONE'S MASCOTS,
"THE RUIN OF A COUNTESS,"
and
"A PRINCE'S SECRET WEDDING."
A fortnight before Xmas, Xmas week, and also New Year's week, the above attractions broke all records for theatres played in. New Year's week gross exceeded anything ever taken in the town before.
WANTED, Jan. 27, Feb. 3, Wales preferred, Feb. 10 and 17. Silverstone, New Theatre, Pontypridd.

"THE SPECKLED BAND." MR. ARTHUR HARDY'S PRINCIPAL CO.
WANTED, Jan. 27, owing to transferring date; South preferred. Wire, to-day, Martin Jarry, West Pier, Brighton; Monday, Pier, Eastbourne.

"THE GIRL WHO WENT ASTRAY."
WANTED, Jan. 27, Feb. 3, 24, Easter.
Fred Bulmer. to-day,
P.O.W., Nuneaton; after, Olympia, Coalville.

"ONE LIFE, ONE LOVE."
WANTED, Feb. 17 and March 3. Twice nightly.
Wire, Charles Locke,
Stonehyrst-terrace, Crackenedge, Dewsbury.

"A WHITE SLAVE."
"A WHITE SLAVE."
"A WHITE SLAVE."
By Edward Thane.
WANTED, Jan. 27 (?), Feb. 3, 24, March 3, 10, 31, and on, including Whit Week.

"MOTHER."
"MOTHER."
"MOTHER."
By Sheila Walsh.
Wanted, Feb. 17, March 3, 10, 17, Easter, and on, with exceptions.
Re the above attractions, wire or write
Joseph Millane,
Queen's, Poplar.

"THE AMAZONS."
From the Duke of York's Theatre.
One of the best and brightest of the Pinero farces.
"Daily Chronicle."
Alfred Gray and Company,
including Violet Malcolm-Barnett,
Dorothy Radcliffe, and Irene Clarke.
WANTED, Wanted, Easter (March 24), March 31 (3),
May 5, and July 28, on.
Address,
Alfred Gray, 14, Sydney-st., S. Kensington.

WANTED, for T. Edward Ward's Cos., "The Slave Girl," April 28, Aug. 4, and late Autumn. The startling New Production, "A Lad's Love," now breaking all records, April 21, Whit, and onwards. All coms., T. E. Ward, Eden Theatre, Bishop Auckland.

MR. HERBERT SLEATH'S CO.
"A WHITE MAN."
The Original Lyric Theatre Production.
WANTED, Autumn Dates, twice nightly, from Aug. 4. Apply, Wentworth Croke, 47, Charing Cross-road, W.C.

"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
"A GIRL'S GOOD LUCK."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Easter, March 3, 10, 31,
May 19. Aug. 4, 11, 25,
Sept., on.
E. L. Garside, Theatre Royal, Scarborough.

WANTED, good Theatres, Feb. 3, onwards, for "Cinderella." Forty people, and a magnificent production. E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

"THE GIRL OF MY HEART."
WANTED, Feb. 3, Feb. 3, between Birmingham and Glasgow; also Easter and March 31 (vacation). Leonard, 4, Norfolk-square, Brighton.

THEATRES WANTED.

GORE OUSELEY'S COMPANIES.
WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"THE CINGALEE."
Easter Week.

Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street, W.
'Phone, Regent 2286.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"ANN."
The latest Criterion success,
with
Miss MADGE CRICHTON
in the Title-rôle.

Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street, W.
'Phone, Regent 2286.
or
Haldane Crichton, Opera House, Coventry.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"THE GOLD DIGGERS;
or, THE BROKEN TRAIL."
The most vivid Drama ever written.

Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street W.
'Phone, Regent 2286.

WANTED, Wanted, Dates.
"TURKISH DELIGHT;
or, A SULTAN FOR A NIGHT."
By Percy Ford.
A Musical Comedy Sketch in 2 Scenes.

Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-street, W.
'Phone, Regent 2286.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
Easter Week.
Easter Week.
Easter Week.
(Once or Twice Nightly).
(Once or Twice Nightly),
for
GORE OUSELEY'S
GORE OUSELEY'S
Great New Throbbing Drama of Pulsing Western Life.
"THE GOLD DIGGERS."
"THE GOLD DIGGERS."
A TALE OF "THE BROKEN TRAIL."
THE MOST VIVID PLAY EVER WRITTEN.
THE MOST VIVID PLAY EVER WRITTEN.
WANTED, WANTED, WANTED.
Easter Week (Once or Twice Nightly).
The Characters are as sharply defined as the Figures on a Greek Cameo.
HUMOUR AND SENTIMENT.
Magnificently Played.
Sumptuously Dressed.
Gorgeously Mounted.
Superlatively Advertised.
The interest of the audience aroused at the very beginning.
"THE GOLD DIGGERS."
"THE GOLD DIGGERS."
And sustained at a high level throughout the performance.
WANTED, WANTED, WANTED,
Easter Week (Once or Twice Nightly).
WANTED, WANTED, WANTED,
Easter Week (Once or Twice Nightly).
"LOVE AND HATRED."
"LOVE AND HATRED."
"LOVE AND HATRED."
Humour, Sentiment, Love, Hatred, Incident, Cohesion, Spectacular Effect, and a Happy Ending.
"THE GOLD DIGGERS."
"THE GOLD DIGGERS."
WANTED, WANTED, WANTED.
Easter Week (Once or Twice Nightly).
GORE OUSELEY, 50, Rupert-street, W.
Manager, E. P. Morgan. 'Phone, Regent 2286.

MR. and MRS. HARRY LYNDON'S TOUR.
"THE PET OF THE RANCH."
By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

WANTED, Jan. 27 and Feb. 3, for this great play.

The romantic drama of the year. Guaranteed the finest mounted, dressed, and played show on the road.

The Dundee Advertiser says: "The play is elaborately staged, and some of the scenic effects, notably that in an Indian encampment, are both artistic and effective.

Wire,
Harry Lyndon, Gaiety, Dundee; next, Coliseum, Goole.

F. Marriott Watson and James Ussher's Tours.
"THE FACE AT THE WINDOW."
WANTED, Wanted, Feb. 10, 24.
Address, this week, Palace Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Address, next week, Alexandra Theatre, New Washington.

"BONNIE MARY."
WANTED, Feb. 10 and 24. Wire,
Charles Locke,
Stonehyrst-terrace, Crackenedge, Dewsbury.

"WHEN LONDON SLEEPS."
By Charles Darrell.
WANTED, Theatres, March 10, 17 (?), April 7, May 5.
"A CRIMINAL'S BRIDE."
By Edward Marris.
Wanted, Theatres, Jan. 20, 27, March 3.
Tom H. Taylor, Aquarium, Yarmouth.

"THE INDIAN SCOUT."
"THE INDIAN SCOUT."
WANTED, Jan. 20, Jan. 20, Theatre or Music Hall, once or twice nightly. 'Phone or write Mr. Morris Abrahams for his opinion.
Wire, Geo. A. De Gray, to-day, Queen's Music Hall, Poplar, E.; next, T.R., Aldershot.

"IMPROPER PETER."
By Special Arrangement with Mr. Arthur Bourchier.
First-class Company and Original Garrick Scenery.
WANTED, Feb. 10 (?), March 17 and 24 (Easter through transferring to oblige), April 14 (Midlands), 21 (North). only vacant dates to July, Aug. 4 (Bank Holiday), and on.
Hamilton, 25, Regent-street, S.W.

"HINDLE WAKES."
The Play that is breaking records everywhere.
WANTED, Jan. 27, Feb. 3, March 24. Now booking summer and autumn. All applications, Edwin T. Heys, Mile End, Stockport.

WILSON HOWARD'S TOURS.
"WHAT WOMEN WILL DO FOR LOVE."
WANTED, Jan. 20, 27, and Feb. 3.
Wire, Aquarium, Yarmouth; Marina, Lowestoft.

THE GREAT MORMON PLAY.
"THROUGH DEATH VALLEY."
Third Year. Third Year.
WANTED, Feb. 24, March 3 (Lancs. preferred), March 24, May 12. Bertram Killarney, Gilmore-rd., Lewisham, London, S.E.

HARRY BRISTOW AND MAY FORDE'S
"I DEFY THE WORLD."
WANTED, Good Theatres, Feb. 10 (?), 17. March 3, on, with exceptions. This and next, Grand T., Glasgow.

THEATRES WANTED.

MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.
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MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.
MR. and MRS. F. G. KIMBERLEY'S CO.'S.

THE PRAIRIE OUTLAW.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

North Co. Vacant March 10, March 10.
North Co. Vacant March 10, March 10.
North Co. Vacant March 10, March 10.

South Co. Vacant March 17, March 31.
South Co. Vacant March 17, March 31.
South Co. Vacant March 17, March 31.

Fast Booking the two Co.s Autumn.
Fast Booking the two Co.s Autumn.
Fast Booking the two Co.s Autumn.

This play has broken all records for business at the Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.
Also at other theatres.

THE WILD GIRL OF THE FOREST.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Guaranteed one of the best mounted military plays on the road.

Beautiful Uniforms, &c.

Vacant, Feb. 3, March 17, Easter.
Vacant, Feb. 3, March 17, Easter.
Vacant, Feb. 3, March 17, Easter.

Only Vacant Dates until Autumn.
Only Vacant Dates until Autumn.
Only Vacant Dates until Autumn.

WAS SHE TO BLAME?

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant Few Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Autumn Dates.

HER PATH OF SORROW.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant Few Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Autumn Dates.
Vacant Few Autumn Dates.

MRS. F. C. KIMBERLEY'S NEW PRODUCTION.

Production Aug. 18, at the Junction, Manchester, With the Broadhead Circuit to follow.

Title to be known later.

Another new play in active preparation.

Many thanks to Mr. Percy B. Broadhead for all his theatres.

THEATRE ROYAL, WOLVERHAMPTON.

Lessee and Manager, F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant March 17, 31.
Vacant March 17, 31.
Vacant March 17, 31.

Few Autumn.
Few Autumn.
Few Autumn.

J. NEWTON COWLING'S TOUR.

THE COLLIER'S LASS.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Two companies on the road of this great success.

Both equal.

North Co. Vacant March 10.
North Co. Vacant March 10.
North Co. Vacant March 10.

South Co. Vacant Whit week.
South Co. Vacant Whit week.
South Co. Vacant Whit week.

Both companies nearly full for Autumn.
Both companies nearly full for Autumn.
Both companies nearly full for Autumn.

HER SECRET LOVER.

By Mrs. F. G. Kimberley.

Vacant Few Summer Dates.
Vacant Few Summer Dates.
Vacant Few Summer Dates.

Managers needing good, sound, honest attractions, book
Mrs. F. G. Kimberley's Plays.
Write for same to
F. G. Kimberley,
Theatre Royal, Wolverhampton.

THEATRES WANTED.

WANTED, Jan. 20, 27, Jan. 20, 27, Feb. 3, 10.
Feb. 3, 10.
TWICE-NIGHTLY PANTOMIMES.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
"GOODY TWO SHOES."
The Two Best Casts in London.
Certain Successes.
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
This week, Hippodrome, Woolwich.
Next week, Hippodrome, Croydon.
"GOODY TWO SHOES."
This week, Hippodrome, Croydon.
Next week, Hippodrome, Balham.
Mr. Edmund Edmunds'
"BABES IN THE WOOD."
James Albert, Sid Kearns, Teddy Denham, Jimmy Tray, Will Lorenzi, Harry Albert, and Edmund Edmund; Madge Lester, Kitty Corelli, Violet Poole, Louie Dacre, Sisters Remo, and Laura Newbury.

Mr. J. A. Albert's
"GOODY TWO SHOES."
E. D. Nicholls, Matt Wilkinson, Leo Main, Lawrence Derrick, Somers and Walmer, and Eric Campbell; Dora Sephton, Violet Beatrice, Dolly Venton, and Maudie Francis.
Wanted, Jan. 20, 27, Jan. 20, 27.
Feb. 3, 10.
Feb. 3, 10.
Also various immediate dates,
Also various immediate dates,
Jan. 27, onwards.

Arthur Shirley's
Enormous "THE STEPMOTHER" Success.
Frederick Baugh,
Sadler's Wells Theatre, E.C.
'Phone, Central 5890.
Telegrams, "Stageyness, London."

GEORGE N. BALLANGER'S
Latest American Production,
"THE ROUND UP."
The real thing in cowboy melodrama.
Enormous success as a twice-nightly attraction.

WANTED, Big Theatres or Music Halls for the following dates:—
Feb. 10, 17, and 24.
March 10, 17, and 24 (?).
April 28, May 5 and 12 (?).
Aug. 4, and various onwards.
A beautiful scenic production. Powerful company. Everything carried, a clear stage only required.

Wire for Feb. 10, 17, and 24,
George N. Ballanger,
2, Rupert-court, London, W.

"A BLIND GIRL'S LOVE."
WANTED, Jan. 20, Feb. 10 and 17. Wire,
Charles Locke,
Stonehyrst-terrace, Crackenedge, Dewsbury.

HERBERT FULLER'S TWO WINNERS.
"AS YOUR HAIR GROWS WHITER."

WANTED, Jan. 27, Feb. 10, 24, March 3, 24, April 7, 14, 28, May 5, June 2, 16, 23 (?), July 7, 21, and various on.
New production now being painted.
Cast includes Agnes Collier and Herbert Fuller.
GRAND WHIT WEEK PRODUCTION.
"MOTHERLESS."
Everything carried. Star cast.
Wanted, Theatres, "ALADDIN," 1913.
Cast of 50. Gorgeous production.
May 19, June 9, 16, 23, 30, July 21, &c.
T.R., Stanley; next, Hippo., Darlington.

WANTED, Dates. Wanted, Dates, Wanted Dates.

THERE IS A BIG NEW YEAR'S GIFT AWAITING EVERY MANAGER WHO IS LUCKY ENOUGH TO BOOK
Barlowe Borland's
American Sensation.
"CUNNING."
The Jail Breaker and Handcuff King,
in
"FROM PORTLAND TO LIBERTY."
By Robert Provo.
Is your business as good as it might be?
Don't you think you could improve it?
YOU NEVER KNOW UNTIL YOU TRY!
All communications re dates,
Mr. Edmund Tearle.
c/o "The Era," London, W.C.

"THE MIRACLE."
"THE MIRACLE."
"THE MIRACLE."
Alfred Denville's epoch-making production.

WANTED, Big Capacity Theatres, Feb. 3 and 10, between Buxton and Dundee (H.M.), March 10, between Edinburgh (Lyceum) and Liverpool, and various onward.
Coms. (dates only), Arthur Jefferson, 132, Charing Cross-road, London. Wires, "Aitenev, Ox, London." 'Phone, Regent 1480.

WANTED, to Produce Next Year, or Hire, "Goody Two Shoes," now playing Theatre Royal, Exeter.
Apply, A. E. Abrahams,
73, Romford-road, Stratford, London, E.

ARTISTES WANTED.

WANTED, Child Actress; must be of small stature, if possible, to be accompanied by mother or lady to play part in "East Lynne." Photos and full particulars, and what class of part lady can play, and height and age of child, to J. Pitt Hardacre, R.A. Theatre, Woolwich.

"IMPROPER PETER."
From Garrick Theatre.
WANTED, Leading Man, and Artistes All Lines, Acting, Advance, and Stage-Managers; 17 weeks' tour. Apply by letter only (no callers), full particulars, salary, photo., to
Manager, 176, Kennington-road, S.E.

VICTORIA THEATRE, BROUGHTON, MANCHESTER.
Permanent twice-nightly stock.
WANTED, first-class Juvenile Leading Gentleman, Heavy Leading Gentleman, also experienced twice-nightly dramatic producer. State age (accurate), measurements, and references. Application without photos. useless, whether known or not. Apply, Montague Beaudyn.

WANTED, Low Comedian; must Sing and Dance; steady engagement; state age, height. Box 4,193, "The Era."

WANTED, for Tour of West End success, a Refined Amateur (gentleman).
Box 4,189, "The Era."

WANTED, Artistes (Ladies and Gentlemen), Comedians, Soubrettes, Pantomimists, Character Actress; also several prepossessing Chorus Ladies.
Apply, Fred Karno, 28, Vaughan-road, Camberwell, S.E.

WANTED, Gentlemen (including robust leading actor), for "Captain Brassbound's Conversion," special week, Feb. 3. Particulars and terms to Leigh Lovel, c/o "The Era."

"ALL-OF-A-SUDDEN PEGGY."
WANTED, Company for above, short tour, commencing Brighton, Feb. 24. Photo, lowest inclusive terms, references, age, height, photo, &c. Williams, Pavilion, Weymouth.

WANTED, Refined Young Ladies with good voice and stage ability, immediately. Mann, 1, Monday, Mitre Hotel, 30, Cursitor-street, Chancery-lane, Holborn.

WANTED, Coloured Lady Artiste, for chorus, with good Soprano; one who can do turn preferred. State age, height, references, and lowest terms, with photo., to T. Edward Ward, Theatre Royal, Crook, Co. Durham.

ARTISTES WANTED.

"TURKISH DELIGHT."
WANTED, tall, striking Lady for Eastern Part; need not sing, but must have very good appearance and figure.
Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-st., W.
'Phone, 2286 Regent.

"TURKISH DELIGHT."
WANTED, two Gentlemen of Colour; must be over 6ft. and broad in proportion.
Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-st., W.
'Phone, 2286 Regent

GORE OUSELEY'S PRODUCTIONS.
WANTED, good Contraltos for Spring. Write where to be now seen.
Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-st., W.
'Phone, 2286 Regent

"TURKISH DELIGHT."
WANTED, Leading Low Comedian, used to Halls; must be unctuous and broad; dialect not necessary.
Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-st., W.
'Phone, 2286 Regent.

WANTED, Miss Lilli Gale or Stafford (S. Africa and Bristol), last heard of in "The Maid and the Motor Man" Co., 1908, to receive news to her advantage. Will any person having slightest clue to this lady's present whereabouts, or who was ever acquainted with her, please communicate immediately with "Madame," 49, Brondesbury-villas, High-road, Kilburn, London?

WANTED, Dramatic Artistes who experience difficulty in obtaining copies of "The Era" at any of Messrs. Smith and Son's Bookstalls to kindly communicate with the Publisher, "The Era" Buildings, 5, Tavistock-street, Strand, W.C.

ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Known, Geo. Ross, Knockabout Comedian, Vacant; girls' parts "Extra," Refer Fred. Kitchen. Ross, 8, Werneth-st., Queen's Park, Manchester.

PANTOMIME ARTISTES WANTED

WANTED, Pantomimist for Cat; open immediate; age, height, lowest; photo (if any). J. M. Jones, T.R., Sunderland. Monday, T.R., Blyth.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WANTED, thoroughly reliable and experienced Electrician for New Hippodrome, Aldershot. Lowest terms and references to Clarence Sounes, Empire, Kingston.

WANTED, for "Bella Donna" fit-up company, reliable Carpenter, own tools. Full particulars, salary, &c., to A. Limpus, 7, Alexander-street, Bayswater (no callers).

WANTED, Good Carpenter and Strong Baggage Man; used fit-ups. Charles Henry Phipps, 28, Silchester-road, Notting Hill.

WANTED, Stage Carpenter; bench hand; permanency to suitable man. Age, refs., lowest terms to E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

WANTED, Resident Property Man; must be good bill poster and smart biller. Terms and references, James Elphinstone, King's Theatre, Sutton-in-Ashfield.

WANTED, Billposter; high-ladder man; willing make himself generally useful; permanency to suitable man; age, height, references. Wheelers, Advertising Agents, Weymouth.

"THE CINGALEE."
WANTED, Good Wardrobe Mistress; own machine; able to make simple dresses. Gore Ouseley, 50, Rupert-st., W. 'Phone, 2286 Regent.

WANTED, Engagement, by W. C. Burns, the acknowledged successful Manager, &c.; any line; years' unique experience; opposition exterminator; life abst. 67, Bath-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, a Gentleman, with large connection in Music Halls and Theatres, would consider taking an interest in a good Variety Agency.
In confidence. Box 4,162, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, a Managing-Director, with considerable influence, would entertain an interest in an Established Dancing Academy or Troupe.
In confidence. Box 4,163, "The Era."

WANTED, Known, a London Music Hall Manager Desires a Change; experienced in all branches; everything satisfactory. Box 4,180, "The Era."

WANTED, Engagement as First-class Operator. Any machine; any current. 14 years experience. Satisfaction guaranteed. Operator, 176, Dyson's-road, Edmonton, N.

WANTED, by exp. Operator-Electrician, dis.; M.C., A.C., D.C.; abstainer; age 24; any distance; lowest terms, 35s.; one week's trial given. Write, Operator, 69, Hobson-street, Failsworth, Manchester.

WANTED, Position as Secretary (lady), shorthand, typewriting; also good accompanist, A.G.S.M.; experienced. Address, L., 37, Perran-road, Tulse Hill, S.W.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, First-class Conductor and Full Band, for the New Hippodrome, Aldershot, to be opened in early February.
Apply in first instance to C. Sounes, Empire, Kingston.
Letters must be marked "A."

WANTED, Pianist-Conductor (to combine another instrument when required). Age, refs., and lowest terms to E. G. Falcon, County Theatre, Bedford.

EMPIRE THEATRE, PRESTON.
WANTED, Leader, to open Jan. 20; Repetiteur and 2nd Violin, Bass, 2nd Cornet, and 2nd Horn, to open Jan. 27. Apply, stating age, experience, references, &c., to Alan W. Young, General Manager.

WANTED

Panto Artistes of Repute

VACANT FOR

PANTOMIME SEASON

1913-14.

—*—

Please communicate immediately, with full particulars, stating Salary required and where can be seen, to

HARRY BURNS,

Walter House,
418, STRAND, LONDON, W.C.

Telephones: 1106/7 City.
Telegrams: "Billetopp" London.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

WANTED, for First-class Ladies' Orchestra, Two Violins and 'Cello, for café in Birmingham; thoroughly efficient, and play solos if required. Commence Feb. 3. Age, terms, refs., and photo (returned). Rushworth, 86, Alexandra-rd., Birmingham.

HIPPODROME, STOKE-ON-TRENT.
WANTED, good First Violinist; used to drama and variety; twice nightly.
Terms and references to
William Berson, Manager.

WANTED, for one week, commencing Feb. 10, First Violin, two Second Violins, Second Viola, Second Bass, First Oboe, Second Flute, Second Bassoon, and Second Trombone; must be good or no use. Terms, age, and references to J. R. Bingley, Musical-Director, 1, Cavendish-street, Grimsby.

WANTED, at once, First Violin and 'Cello.
Apply, stating terms, &c.,
Lionel Holding, Palace Theatre, Watford.

GRAND THEATRE, DERBY.
WANTED, Reliable First Violinist.
Terms and latest references,
Geo. Wood, Grand Theatre, Derby.

WANTED, for Small String Band, 2nd Violin or Viola Player; others can write; terms shares. Prussian Band, 45, Prince's-road West, Torquay.

WANTED, Violinists, 'Cellists, Pianists, and Double Bass Players, for Royal Mail Liners. Apply to Enos Greene, 205, Fordwych-road, Cricklewood, N.W.

WANTED, for Depot Band, near London, Two Cornets, Two Clarinets; good band engagements; every facility given for men to obtain private engagements. Re-enlisted men and transfers may apply to
S. Ward, B.M., 6th Royal Fusiliers, Hounslow.

WANTED, First Cornet and First Clarinet. Terms, shares. Pitching town band. Good opening. Apply, Secretary, 20, Brockfield-street, Bideford.

WANTED, First and Second Cornets; Bandmaster; Cornet able to take charge; Tenor Horn; Drummer; all capable of small parts; good shop for useful, steady men; must be tall. Particulars, Box 4,190, "The Era."

WANTED, for Duffy's Circus, Two Cornets, Trombone, Euphonium, Bass, &c. Mrs. Duffy, Circus, Clonmel, Ireland.

WANTED, for Theatre (London), First-class Clarinet, Cornet, Trombone, Euphonium, Horns, Violins, and Bass.
Box 4,182, "The Era."

WANTED, for Band, Royal Marines, Chatham Division, Trombone Player (tenor or bass); no sea service; good prospects. Address, Charles Hoby, A.R.C.M., L.R.A.M., Bandmaster, Royal Marines, Chatham.

HIPPO., NORWICH (BOSTOCK CIRCUIT).

WANTED, Good 'Cello; permanency to competent man. Wire or write, terms, refs., Herbert Stone, Mus.-Dir.

WANTED, Good 'Cello; six hours daily, permanent. Age, terms, and refs., to H. Hulett, Empress Cinema Theatre, Nottingham.

WANTED, 'Cello, to open Jan. 13; A.M.U. terms. Apply, H. O. Callaghan, Mus.-Dir., Palace Theatre, Oldham.

PLAYHOUSE, STAFFORD.
WANTED, Viola, 'Cello, Flute, special week commencing Jan. 13. Wire inclusive terms, Albert Lloyd, Eastgate Stafford.

WANTED, Wanted, Good Oboe,
Grand, Oldham,
Jan. 13.
Refs., Halkyard.

WANTED Flute and Piccolo; to open at once. Must be first-class performer or useless. Permanency. Apply, Burns, Palace, Doncaster.

WANTED, fully experienced Flautist, to open Jan. 13.
State terms and send copies of references to Theatre Royal, St. Helens.

WANTED, Known, Proprietor important London Cinema desires to get in touch with really clever English pianist of experience; an artist of sympathetic temperament capable of faithfully interpreting pictures of every description; must have extensive repertoire be brilliant, memorise, and extemporise or read at sight as required; permanent good engagement right individual; grand piano and beautiful pipe organ installed. Apply, Box 4,164, "The Era."

WANTED, for now and summer season, Lady instrumentalists; pianists, organists, and vocalists; must be good artistes. Dorothea Vincent, 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, S.W.

WANTED, at once, Experienced Lady Pianist; Orchestral, Variety.
Maude Trainer, Empire, Hawick, N.B.

WANTED, for Theatre Royal, Jarrow, First-class Pianist, to combine Second Violin or Viola. A permanent and comfortable situation to suitable person. Apply, with full particulars, to Hugh Robertson, Theatre Royal, Jarrow.

WANTED, Good Side Drummer, with effects for cruise on the Mediterranean, Jan 31 until April. Possibly also Solo Cornetist. Apply, Messrs. C. W. and F. N. Black, 14, Castle-street, Liverpool.

LYCEUM THEATRE, SHEFFIELD.
WANTED, Wanted, Tympani, Drums.
State lowest terms.
Address, Musical-Director.

WANTED, smart and efficient Piano-Conductor, for New Hippodrome, Aldershot. Lowest terms and references, together with photo, to Clarence Sounes, Empire, Kingston.

WANTED, for Viennese Band, Good Experienced Orchestral Pianist, Leader, First Violin, 'Cello, Bass, Solo Cornet, Trombone, Oboe, Clarinet, Drums, Flute; good appearance. State age and terms. For London and seaside. Box 4,183, "The Era."

STAFFORDSHIRE COUNTY MENTAL HOSPITAL.
Cheddleton, near Leek.

WANTED, Two Attendants, who are capable Violinist and 'Cellist respectively; practice of classical music in full orchestra afforded. Age 21-32. Salary commences at £43 per annum, with prospect of increase to £60, together with board, lodgings, washing, and uniform (emoluments valued at £40 per annum). Permanent situation and pension for suitable men. Married man may have £10 in lieu of lodgings. Applications, with full particulars, to the Medical Superintendent.

WANTED, Lady Instrumentalists of all Kinds, for permanency; also long Summer Engagement. Send terms, photo, experience, Box 4,192, "The Era."

WANTED, a Few Good Musicians for Enlistment in, or transfer to, a line battalion at present stationed in India. Good prospects for good performers. Apply, stating full particulars, to Bandmaster, the Connaught Rangers, Curragh

WANTED, Known, we should Like to Hear from all Gentleman of the Orchestra who toured with us last year if not fixed for the coming season.
Lord John Sanger and Sons, Ltd.,
Burstow Lodge,
Horley, Surrey.

MUSICIANS WANTED.

BANDSMEN REQUIRED.
WANTED, Men for a crack Regimental Band stationed in India, playing the following instruments:—
Two Violins, One 'Cello.
Two Cornets, Two Clarinets.
Applicants should be twenty years of age, and ready to enlist. Good bonuses offered, and there are exceptional prospects for good men. Reply, giving details and full particulars, to
Box No. 12,
C/o Hawkes and Son,
Denman-street,
Piccadilly-circus, W.

WANTED, Professional Men to Join the Nat. Fed. of Professional Musicians for business purposes and mutual aid. 39, Gerrard-st., London, W. 'Phone, 1273 Regent.

WANTED, Known, Musicians before accepting engagements at the Preston Empire please write to Alfred Beckett, Branch Secretary, A.M.U., 74, Church-street, Preston.

MUSICIANS' WANTS.

WANTED, Post as Musical-Director or Pianist-Conductor; thoroughly experienced in drama, varieties, pictures, &c.; large orchestral library of classical music; excellent refs. Sydney Grahame, 22, Avon-st., Evesham, Worcs.

WANTED, Known, Mr. E. T. DE BANZIE Mus.-Dir. and Conductor. On tour with the great Lalla Selbini. Immediate offers invited for Resident-Conductor or Tour Author, Composer, and Producer. Address, Pavilion Theatre, Newcastle-on-Tyne. Next, Barrow-in-Furness.

WANTED, Engagement by Conductor-Pianist (combine violin); thoroughly experienced all lines; good references; large modern library. Lord, Market Place, Hyde.

WANTED, Engagement by Good Leader (Violin) and Orchestral Pianist (ladies); exp. Pictures, Café, and Variety; joint or single. Verni, 12, Wellington-square, Chelsea.

WANTED, Known, Violinist (lady) dis.; good variety, pictures, &c.; large suitable repertoire; or supplies bands. Late leader "Florodora," "La Poupée," &c. Wire, M. Wolff, P.O., Hassocks.

WANTED, Miss Ethel Horton (violinist); disengaged; in or near London preferred. 159, Herbert-road, Plumstead.

WANTED, Engagement, Violinist, 1st or 2nd; Variety or Pictures; good refs.
Windale, 30, Major-street, Hopetown, Darlington.

WANTED, Engagement, Violinist; experienced; Theatre, Pictures, or Quadrille, or deputising. Can supply music. Violinist, 15, Sainfoin-road, Balham, S.W.

WANTED, by Violinist (good rep.), suit Restaurant or Small Party. Expressive player and good reader. Effective arranger for small orchestra. Combine Ocarina solos (classics, etc.). E. Toron, 38, Arlington-road, N.W.

WANTED, Engagement First or Second Cornet; any business. Address, Cornet, 65, Earl-street, Edgware-road, London.

WANTED, Engagement, Cornetist; any business, in London; young, steady; can commence Monday; A.M.U. Angel, 47, Stopford-road, West Ham.

WANTED, Known, Experienced Cornet, Disengaged 11th inst., seeks Engagement; pictures, variety, or any business; sober, reliable. Owen, 36, Seymour-buildings, Churchway, Euston, London.

WANTED, by First Clarinet, combine Second Violin, Engagement; any business.
Box 4,188, "The Era."

WANTED, by Clarinet, engagement, Picture Theatre or Small Band. London preferable. Experienced. S. L. Sandison, 69, Venn-st., Clapham.

WANTED, by Double Bass (four strings), Engagement (permanent); reliable, all-round player; steady; disengaged now. J. F. Bradley, Station-road, Tadcaster.

WANTED, Known, Bassoon, at liberty; combine Oboe; Orch. and Mil. exp.; steady and reliable. W. O., 2, Doddington-grove, Kennington, S.E.

WANTED, Good Engagement, Trombone (experienced). Burns, Trombonist, c/o 46, Thomas-street, Flowery Field, Hyde, nr. Manchester.

WANTED, Engagement, by French Horn, for summer season; competent, experienced.
Address, Box 4,184, "The Era."

WANTED, Wanted. Known.
First-class 'Cellist disengaged.
Address, A. Godfrey, 13, Swallow-street, Regent-street, W.

WANTED, Known, Flautist, also Trombonist, at liberty through reduction of orchestra; any business. Wire or write, this week and next, Coliseum, Oldham.

WANTED, by Young Lady, Situation as Pianist in picture theatre; experienced with or without orchestra; would deputise; age 19. Miss Whittaker, 62, High-street, Plaistow.

WANTED, Re-engagement by Lady Pianist; experienced Pictures and Variety, Soloist, Sight-Reader; references. Pianist, 35, Dornton-road, Balham, S.W.

WANTED, Known, to Picture Theatres, MME. WALTER can supply Ladies' or Gentlemen's Bands.
All experienced performers and picture players.
29, Southampton-st., Fitzroy-sq., London.

WANTED, Known, Imperial Ladies' Orchestras. Vocalists. Bells. &c.; established 1890. Directress, Madame Nellie Baker, 114, Woodlands-road, Ilford. 'Phone, 877 Ilford.

WANTED, Known, Miss Dorothea Vincent's celebrated Cremona Ladies' Orchestras; three to forty performers; smart uniform. 8, Grafton-square, Clapham, S.W. 'Phone, 990 Battersea.

WANTED, Known, Mme. Winternitz, Ladies' Orchestras, Trios, Quartettes, or Individual Musicians Supplied at shortest notice; immense library brilliant music. 31, Alexandra-road, Birmingham.

WANTED, Known, Bandmaster (popular) will be pleased to supply Military Band for summer season or conduct municipal band. Pleased to answer inquiries. W. Ure, Bandmaster, Royal Engineers, Drill Hall, Barras Bridge, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTED.

WANTED, for Swallow's International Circus, tenting season 1913, Artistes in All Lines, several good Ground Acts. Address, 6, Thornley-street, Wolverhampton.

WANTED, for the Australian Circus Co., Touring Season, Cowboys, Whip Manipulators, Rough Riders, with own horses. Manager, Walsall Wood, Staffs.

WANTED, Good, Sensational Novelty Acts, Animal Acts, &c.; nothing too big. Will Ada Cuffy write? Mrs. Duffy, Circus, Clonmel, Ireland.

WANTED, at once, Single Young Man; good knockabout, gymnastic tumbler.
Full particulars, age, height, weight, lowest salary,
Box 4,132, "The Era."

CIRCUS ARTISTES' WANTS.

WANTED, Circus Proprietors to know
The Three Royal Ohmys
have made, and are still making, the greatest success ever known at the Royal Agricultural Hall, London.
The Royal Ohmys
wish to thank Sir Robert Fossett for the beautiful Gold Medals he presented to them in the Ring after their great act on Monday evening; also Miss Emma Fossett for the beautiful Gold Bags she presented to them.
Thanks, thanks, many thanks.
Note, the Royal Ohmys will be at Liberty Feb. 17, with Six Star Riding Acts and Three Trained Horses.
Address,
The Royal Ohmys,
Agricultural Hall, London.

WANTED, Known, Rollo, the World's Highest Slack Rope Artiste. Big success, Evans' Carnival, Tollcross, Edinburgh; fourth year in above city. Address as above.

WANTED, Known, Handy Andy (Frank Anderson), Clown and Agouste, just concluded successful American tour, now at liberty to book for the coming season. Address, 3, Leopold-road, Liverpool. N.B.—Open to take partner, who is willing to invest and take half interest in good burlesque knockabout sketch.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES WANTED

WILL COLLINS AND COMPANY.
WANTED, Big Star Acts, Big Comedy Acts, Big Speciality Acts, Big Comedy Sketches.
Salary or sharing,
for the
Hippodrome, Exeter.
Will Collins and Company,
Broadmead House,
Panton-street, S.W.

WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Wanted,
For Immediate and Future Dates,
STAR COMEDIANS,
BIG SPECIALITIES,
BIG SPECIALITIES,
BIG COMEDY ACTS.
Send Full List of Bookings,
Terms, &c.,
WILL SLEY,
180, Oxford-road, Manchester.

GLASGOW PANOPTICON AND IBROX PALACE.
WANTED, for the above hall, strong and attractive Specialities, Good Comediennes. Sisters, Comedians, &c. Full particulars first letter, list of bookings, lithos, if any, to
A. E. Pickard, Panopticon, Glasgow.

WANTED, Big Tops, shares or salary, Artistes all lines, Jan. 20, onwards. Can offer 10 weeks, journeys short. Kennedy Circuit, Empire, Smethwick.

NEW THEATRE, WORCESTER.
WANTED, Big Star Attractions, on salary, or to find complete programme on share.
Arthur Carlton, New Theatre, Worcester.

PALACE, DURHAM. On the Main Line.
WANTED, Artistes, Specialities, and Novelties, for immediate and future dates. T. C. Rawes, Proprietor.

FRANK COYLE'S AGENCY.
WANTED, Big Star Top Liners.
Also Good Turns, all branches,
Jan. 20, 27, onwards.
1, Cross Flatts-drive, Beeston, Leeds.
'Phone, 4195. Telegrams, "Alarm, Beeston, Leeds."

WANTED Wanted, Wanted,
Monday next, onwards,
Acts all Lines, Several Big Tops, for Jan. 20 and 27, for provinces. Will all acts on my books please keep me fully posted?
Please Note.—As this is a residential office, interviews by appointment only.
WILL LUND,
197, Edge-lane,
Liverpool.
'Phone, 682 Royal. Wires, "Comedy."

WANTED, for fêtes and galas, 1913, from May 12 to the end of Aug., Acrobatic Troupes, Rope and Wire Walkers, Flying Trapeze, High Diving Acts, and any kind of aerial acts or sensational novelties suitable for outdoor. Apply, with lowest terms and sample lithos (if any) to Wilder Bros., Agents, Gt. Francis Street, Birmingham.

PALACE, SUNDERLAND.
THE HOME OF NOVELTY.
WANTED, for Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24, onward (with exceptions), all the Latest and Greatest Novelties and Sensational Attractions of the Day. Also Big Comedy, Acrobatic, and Pantomimic Troupes. First-class Singing and Dancing Acts, Spectacular, Scenic Productions, Big Musical Shows, and anything New, Novel, and Original. Address, lowest terms and samples of printing (if any), to Manager, Palace, Sunderland.

SMYTHSON'S AGENCY,
38, Craster-road, Brixton, London, S.W.
WANTED, Star Acts, immediate dates (Midlands and Scotland).
Also Acts, all lines, new to Scotland and North. Lowest terms, first letter (or useless), full list bookings, and lithos. (if any).
Will clients please keep us regularly posted? Three engagements lost for next week through addresses unknown. Silence polite negative pro tem.

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE, RAMSGATE.
Sole Lessee and Manager, W. J. Attack.
WANTED, Wanted, Wanted, Variety Artistes, Big Specialities, the Biggest and Most Marvellous Acts in the Business, for Feb. 3 and onwards. Send full list of bookings, lithos, and lowest terms, to W. J. Attack.

WANTED, big Acts, all lines; contracts wait. Six Yeomans, Seven Kosiques, Rose and Wold, Les Henris, Will Dayton Family, Five Symphony Girls, Musical Romanys, write at once. Sterling's Variety Agency, 3, Leamington-avenue, Oxford-road, Manchester. 'Phone, 582 Rusholme. Tele., "Matinée."

WANTED, Palace, Bow. Friday Nights, P., Battersea, Monday Matinées, Foresters' Thursday Matinées, Extra Turns; £1 Prize for best at each hall. Competition Manager, Sadler's Wells Theatre.

WANTED, First-class Turns, all lines; Good Tops, Combinations; share or certainty; Specialities immediate. Nightingale, Royal, Gt. Yarmouth.

WANTED, Music Hall Artistes, all lines. Big Comedy Acts. Jan. 20, on. Terms, bookings Edgar Stebbings and Co.,
28, Egerton-street, Manchester.

WANTED, First-class Three-bar Worker.
Address, with tricks, terms, &c.,
Box 4,159, "The Era."

WANTED, Young Man for Triple Bar Act immediately; state height, weight, and lowest. Gymnast, c/o West's Agency, 144, Wellington-street, Glasgow.

WANTED, at once, a Young Girl, to join a first-class musical act as apprentice. Those with previous experience, to play cornet, preferred. Offers, with photo, &c., to
Romany,
Barnsley Pavilion.

WANTED, all Variety Artistes holding contracts for Empire, Hednesford, to write at once to new Proprietor, R. A. MADDOX, Marchfield, Park-avenue, Worcester, for confirmation.

PALACE THEATRE, READING, and NEW THEATRE, NORTHAMPTON.
WANTED, Known, all Communications should be addressed to W. T. Simmons, Managing Director, Palace Theatre, Reading.

ROYAL PALACE THEATRE, RAMSGATE.
WANTED, all communications to be addressed to Sole Lessee and Manager, W. J. Attack.

MUSIC HALL ARTISTES' WANTS

STUART CLEVELAND,
supported by his No. 1 Company,
in the successful "Heart to Heart" Sketch.
"A POLICEMAN AND A MAN."
WANTED, Wanted, Jan. 20, April 21, May 19, 26, various, on.
Apply to the Principal Agents, or
Stuart Cleveland, Grand, Manchester.

WANTED, Feb. 3, 10, and 17, by Alfred Wellesley, in "Uncle's Courtship." Three artistes; runs 18 minutes; one continuous laugh from all classes of audience. Booked into 1915 by Moss', Stoll, L.T.V., Syndicate Halls, De Frece, Barrasford, Macnaghten, London Pavilion, Alfred Butt, &c., &c.
Add., Theatre Royal, Hanley; playing Dame.

WANTED, by Josie Mooney, Comedienne, Jan. 20 and 27. Go steady, big hit. Address, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.

WANTED, by Walter Munro, Jan. 20 and 27. All new songs.
Write or wire, Empire Theatre, Cardiff.

WANTED, Known, Neddy Vokes, Refined Comedy, Musical, and Talking Comedian, now Vacant. Address, 16, Moreton-street, Strangeways, Manchester. New to Wales.

WANTED, Feb. 3 and 10, Theo Mauritus, the famous Handcuff King and Jail Breaker. Aquarium, Scarborough.

WANTED, Peter Adair, acknowledged the smartest made man in the profession, after doing another 1,000-mile walk next month, will appear in an elegant speciality. Particulars, c/o "The Era." Telegraphic address, "Cocum, London," is sufficient; not "Cocoa."

WANTED, Known, to Proprietors, Managers, and Agents, the Great Rohde and Roche present their original comedy pot-pourri act, "A Strange Meeting." The Chameleon, the Artist, and "IT," and our "IT" gag is original. Jan. 13, Pal., Winchester. Vac., Feb. 17, March 10, on. The one and only act of its kind.

Danvers (Geo.) and Jackson (Gertie), in a Novel Comedy Singing and Dancing Act,
"The Girl Scout and the News Boy."
WANTED, March 3, onwards. This and next, H.M. Theatre, Dundee.

WANTED, by Gladys and Alber, Up-to-date Comedy Act, introducing singing, dancing, patter, and the cleverest tumbler before the public. Great success this, Hippo., Loughborough. Few vacancies prior to sailing South Africa. Vac., Jan. 13, 20, Feb. 3, 10, 17. 16, Holderness-ter., Leeds.

WANTED, Jan. 27, Feb. 3. Wire. The Royal Magnets. Enormous success here. One or two screaming and distinct comedy acts. Wire, Picture Palace, Tonyrefail, S. Wales.

MONDAY NEXT.
MONDAY NEXT.
WANTED, by Harry Keeble, the incomparable Ventriloquist, also Gladys Wells, England's Premier Chorus Vocalist. Wire, 97, John-street, Blaydon-on-Tyne.

WANTED, Feb. 3, between Glasgow and Burnley; also March 3, between Preston and Southsea. Gulliver and the Doll with the Laugh.
Olympia,
Stirling, N.B.

WANTED, Jan. 13, 20, and 27, by ATLAS and the BEAUTIFUL VULCANA TROUPE, introducing the only champion Lady Athletes extant; one, two, or three turns. Till Sat., Empire, Mountain Ash; after, P.A., Atlas, The Hollies, Fulham.

WANTED, few immediate dates; one great Dashing Act, with great drawing powers.
Chard's Dogs,
48, Boston-st., Hulme, Manchester.

PIERROT WANTEDS.

MATLOCK BATH U.D. COUNCIL.
WANTED, Wanted, Tenders,
for use of Pierrot Pavilion
in Pleasure Grounds (open pitch).
Particulars obtainable from
H. W. A. Carter,
Council Offices,
Matlock Bath.

SHOWMEN'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

SHOWMEN'S GUILD OF GREAT BRITAIN.
President, Mr. Patrick Collins.
WANTED, Known, the Annual Business Meeting will take place at the Black Lion Hotel, Salford, Manchester, on
Wednesday, Jan. 15, 1913, at 11 a.m.
Important Business—
The Adoption of Annual Reports,
The Election of Officers, and
Other Business.
Members are Particularly Requested to Attend.
T. HURST, Hon. Secretary.
T. HORNE, Chaplain and Organiser.

SHOWMEN'S GUILD OF GREAT BRITAIN.
President, Mr. Patrick Collins.
WANTED, Known, the Annual Public Meeting will take place at the World's Fair, Islington, London (by kind permission of Mr. T. E. Read, on Wednesday, Jan. 22, 1913, at 11 a.m., prompt, the President in the chair, supported by the Rev. T. Horne (chaplain), Mr. T. Watson Wright (Parliamentary solicitor), and the members of the executive council of the Guild. Business of the greatest importance to the whole body of open-air amusement caterers will be brought before the meeting, and the annual statement of progress will be made. The Parliamentary committee will meet the same evening at 6.30. T. Hurst, hon. secretary; T. Horne, chaplain and organiser.

WANTED, Good Pitch Getter and Floorsman, for Auction Room.
C. Chaplain,
95, High-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, for Second Annual Trades Exhibition, Public Hall, Belper. Feb. 8, 15, inclusive, Smart Sideshow, Good Palmist (rental), Handkerchief Embry. Apply, Manager.

WANTED, good, quick-showing Novelties, to open at once. C. Chaplain, 95, High-street, Birmingham.

WANTED, to Sell, Photos, Husbands, Wives, Babies, Love Letters, Fortunes, Eyes, Astrology, Comic Cards, X-Rays.
Meurice, 39, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines. New and Second-hand; Card Delivery. Mother Shipton's; marvellous money-takers. New Catalogue. Meurice, Argyle-square, W.C.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines; the latest Novelties and best money-takers. Wormald, 123, Blythe-road, West Kensington, London, W. Established 1887.

WANTED, to Sell, Automatic Machines, all kinds, bargain lists free. Husband, Wife, Baby, Eye, Hair, Fortunes, Astrology Cards, 5s. 1,000. Love Letters, 9s. Leslie, 5, Denning-road, Hampstead Heath, N.W.

WANTED, to Let on Hire, Large Distorting Mirrors; Exhibitions, Carnivals, &c.
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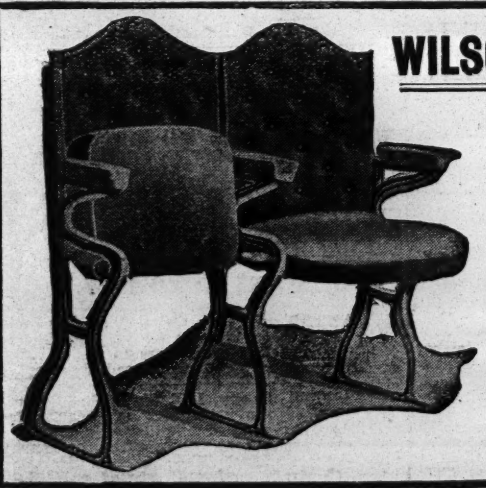

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COYLE'S, FRANK, AGENCY. 1, Cross Flatts-drive, Beeston, Leeds. 'Phone, 4195. Telegrams, "Alarm, Beeston, Leeds."

CRAYFORD, CHARLES. "The Kentish Mystic." Vac., Feb. 10. This, Central Hall, Horsham. Next, Star Pal., Tonbridge.

DALTON'S AGENCY. Artistes always Wanted. State dates, lowest, &c. 62, Parsonage-rd., Withington, Manchester. Tel., 193 Didsbury. Wires, "Graubeste, Withington, Lancs."

DANIELS, THE TWO. Speciality Nigger Act. Offers invited. Theatre Royal, Great Yarmouth.

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DARNLEY'S AGENCY. Telegrams, "Darnleyism, London." 'Phone, 1784 Brixton. General Manager, Fred Bronte, 38, Stockwell Park-road, Clapham.

D'AUBYN, MINNIE. A Real Pantomime Artiste in every sense of the word. See Back Page.

DAYTON FAMILY, THE. Jan. 13, P.H., Shirebrook. With own Vaudeville Entertainment. Vacant, Feb. 10 and Mar. 10.

DE KOLZAS, FOUR MYSTIC. An Illusory Act that draws. Palace, Montrose. Monday, Palace, Hawick, Scotland.

DE ROSE, MLLE., Prince Splendid. HILDA CLAREMONT, Cinderella. Theatre Royal, Castleford.

DEVON, LILLIAN. Character Comedienne and Dancer. R. Nightingale's Panto. Company. This, Hip., Aston. Next, Hip., Stoke.

DIGBY, MISS ALICE. Title-rôle, Panto., T.R., Bristol. Also FIVE DIGBY GIRLS. 36, South Island-place, S.W.

DOMINOS, TWO. Wise Donkey and Fool of a Partner. Liberty Feb. 15. Coms., Theatre Sarah Bernhardt, Paris.

DOYLE and GIBSON. Messrs. Dottridge and Longden's "Dick Whittington." Jan. 13, Hippo., Boscombe.

DRUMMER GIRLS (SIX). Great success, Chesterfield. Jan. 13, Lyric, Liverpool.

DURHAM'S, FRED, Variety Agency, 74, Upper Tulse-hill, S.W. 'Phone, 15 Brixton. Tel., 'Durhamlike, London."

DUVAL. Le Pierrot. Anglo-French Ventriloquist. Touring France, England shortly. Daniel's Agency.

ELLIOTT SAVONAS, THE. Musical Marvels. Orpheum Tour, America.

FLORADORAS. Topping this, Alhambra, Stourbridge; another record week. Vacant, Jan. 13. Wire. London to follow.

GERALD, VIOLET. The Ideal Boy. Concludes successfully, Palace, Scunthorpe. Returns Monday next, Hippodrome, Hemsworth.

GRATTAN, CHAS., Comedian. This week, Hippo., Tonypandy. All coms., Karl Hooper's Agency, London, W.C.

GRENN, CHRIS. Just a comedian. Vacant, Jan. 20 and 27. This, Picturedrome, Newtown. Next, Palace, Wells, Somerset.

GREENLEES, THE (5), in Novel Act, "On a Holiday." Re-engaged, second week, on success. Palace, Peterhead, N.B.

HALES, LILLIE. Comedienne and Expert Dancer. Next, Theatre, Chorley. Vacant March 3, 31, 1913.

HARDY, CHERRY. Principal Boy, PALACE, MANCHESTER. "Manchester Guardian," Dec. 24, 1912:—. . . and meanwhile, as many songs as possible should be given to Miss Cherry Hardy, the principal boy, who has quite a good notion how these things are done nowadays. "Manchester Dispatch," Dec. 24:—As principal boy Miss Cherry Hardy was spontaneous in her liveliness, her dancing being especially fine.

HART, DAVID. Variety Agent. Change of address, 18, Charing Cross-rd., W.C. 'Phone, 5383 Gerrard. Tel., "Divadart, London."

HART, SAMUEL, Variety Agent, 24, Endymion-road, Brixton Hill. 'Phone, 116 Brixton. Tel. address, "Sammelst, London."

HENDERSON, FRANCES and GLADYS. No immediate vacancies. Jan. 13, Hippo., Stoke-on-Trent.

HENRIETTE and SELINA. The incomparable Soloists. An Act brimful of merit. Always playing. Touring.

HERIOT TRIO. Jan. 13, Pavilion, Treorchy.

HESS and LISBON, in their Inimitable Comic Skating Speciality. Theatre Royal, Glasgow.

HIGHAM, FRED, Variety Agent, 5, Durand-gdns., Clapham-rd., S.W. Immediate Engagements. Star Turns. 'Phone, 39 Brixton.

HILL, ROWLAND. "Ye Dame." Pantomime, Theatre Royal, Sheffield.

HOLMAN, SISTERS. Dainty Duettists and Dancers. Big success with Mr. Tom B. Davis's "Jack and Jill." T.R., Plymouth. Residential.

HYMACK, MR. Fulfilling engagement in South Africa with Messrs. Hyman, Ltd.

JONES, MARIE. The Lady Proteus. Wants Jan. 13. To-day, 1, Rugeley-road, Hednesford. After, 5, Cowper-road, N.

KENYON, HARRY. Vaudeville and Dramatic Agent (17 years Manager, Grand, Bolton), 11, Park-st., Bolton. Tel. add., "Renmus, Bolton." Nat. Tel., 629 Bolton.

LA MARA CHUMMIE. Empire, Edmonton. P.A., 81, Albany-rd., Camberwell, London, S.E.

LASSAH, LILLIE. All coms., Palace, Battersea.

LAYTON and DOUGLAS. Quick change Character Instrumentalists. This, Tivoli, Barrow-in-Furness. Next, Emp., Spennymoor.

LITTLE'S, FRED J., Variety Agency, 4, Arthur-st., New Oxford-st., London, W.C. Tel. add., "Wontiod, London." 'Phone, 1626 Ger.

LUND'S VARIETY AGENCY, 197, Edge-lane, Liverpool. Always Vacancies for First-class Acts.

LURAINES, LES, Lady Brass Instrumentalists. Also KINNARD and his Dog, Novel Pot-Pourri Act. Lyric, Liverpool. Next, Palace, Glossop.

MAURITUS, THEO. Handcuff King and Jail Breaker. Aquarium, Scarborough. See Wanteds.

MAYNARD, TOM. "The Dotty One." Abanaza, Seebold and Melrose's "Aladdin." To-day, Gaiety, Ayr. Jan. 13, Gaiety, Methil.

MAYNE, ERNIE. (Simply.) Top Hole Absolute. Shakespeare Theatre, Liverpool.

MCASKELL. Comedy Conjurer. 6, Great Clyde-street, Glasgow. To be forwarded. Sole Scotch Agent, Fred Collins, Glasgow.

MILLARD, GEORGE. Comedian. The Captain, in Joe Collins' "Sinbad" Panto. Jan. 13, Hippo., Lewisham, S.E.

MOHAMED BEN MOHAMED. Ten Souasa Arabs, Hippodrome, Middlesbrough. P.A., 8, A. B. Row, Birmingham.

MORRIS, J. C., as Dame Trot, is the dame of pantomime to life.—"Southern Echo." Jan. 13, H., Bolton. Vac., Feb. 10.

MORRIS, MAMIE. Success Palace, Huddersfield. Monday, Grand, Manchester.

NEWMAN and KNIGHT. Unique Act, "A Juggler at Home." P.P., Kirkintolloch. P.A., Homestead, New Malden. 'Phone, 48 Malden

NIBLO'S TALKING BIRDS. Headliner, Loew Circuit. New York City.

NORA, NELLIE. Dainty Instrumental Act. This, Palace, Reading; next, Pavilion, Ayr, N.B.

PACEY, TOM, Agent, 18, Charing Cross-road, W.C. Tele., "Pacey's, London." 'Phone, 7173 Gerrard.

PERMANE, CAPTAIN. Real Live Troupe of Teddy Bears. Teddy Bears. Vac. Jan. 20, Hippodrome, Featherstone, Yorks.

POLLARD BROS. Pantomime Experts. Thanks for seven telegrams. Old Part, Fitzwarren, E.M. P.P., Brighton. Next, Richmond.

PURVIS, LILY. Sir Britannia, and Understudying Miss Maud Mortimer. Britannia Theatre, Hoxton, N.

RAYMOND, THE, ANIMATED PICTURE CO., 10 and 12, Garrick-street, London, W.C.

RAYNOR, JACK. The So Loose Comedian. Old Man of the Sea, J. Collins' "Sinbad the Sailor." Next, Hippo., Lewisham.

REEVES' VARIETY AGENCY, Heathfield, 331, Brixton-road, S.W. Tele., "Formerley, London." 'Phone, 1066 Brixton

RENSHAW, NANCY. Laughing Negress and Bone Soloist. Jan. 13, Black's P.P., Gateshead.

RIVERS, PAULINE, Ballet Producer 12 Little Sunshines, including LITTLE EMMIE. Jan. 13, Metropole Theatre, Bootle.

ROHDE and ROCHE. Original Comedy Pot-Pourri Act. "A Strange Meeting." The Chameleon, the Artist, and IT.

RYLAND, CLIFF. Originator of "Rag" and "Bone" time. Fully booked. Vacant Monday.

SILVO, MUSICAL. Unapproached and unapproachable.—Vide Press. Jan. 13, Palace, Westcliffe, Southend.

SMYTHSON COMEDY CO. "Our Suite," "Love Germs." Vac., Jan. 13 and 20. Wire, Smythson, Emp., Chester-le-Street, co. Durham.

STEBBINGS, EDGAR, Variety Agent, 28, Egerton-street, Hulme, Manchester. Tels., "Stebbing." 'Phone, 9261 Central.

ST. JOHN, BROS. Music, Humour, Dancing. Sail S. Africa March 15. Vac. July 7, 14, 21, and Panto. Hippo., Hemsworth.

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TALBOT and CLARE. "An Eastern Absurdity." Monday, Hippo., Hulme, Manchester.

TEMPLES, THREE ROYAL, This, Hippo., Wigan; next, Hippo., Bedford, Leigh. Coms., Harry Leaton.

TERRY SISTERS (Bella and Minnie). An Entertainment in Themselves. Jan. 13, Hippo., Darlington.

TUDORA'S (EDITH) PONIES. Liberty Jan. 20, 27, on. Genuine Pretty Act. This, Alnwick. Monday, Central, Amble.

TYMES, THE. Song Scena, "The Enchanted Clock" (3,446). De Lacy and Tymes' Panto. Jan. 13, Empire, Heanor.

VALDO BROS., THE, in their Acrobatic Absurdity, "The Eccentric Motor Bus-Men." Per. add., 48, Rudloe-rd., Balham, London.

VINCENT. Acrobatic Table Expert. Jan. 13, Pitt's Palace, Llanbradach.

WEBB BROS., Eldorado Casino, Nice, France. Season's compliments.

WELDA and WYNNE (Bert and Dorothy). Vacant, Jan. 20 and 27. Address, 16, Mysore-road, Clapham Junction, London, S.W.

WHEELER'S (late Beecham and Wheeler) Musical, Dramatic, and Variety Agency, 12, Henrietta-street, W.C. Tel., 1280 Ger.

WILDER BROTHERS, Pyrotechnic Artistes, Gala and Fête Agents. 29, Great Francis-street, Birmingham.

WILSON, J. A., and Private Towser. Jan. 13, Empire Palace, Southport. At liberty, Jan. 27, to follow Runcorn. Wire or write above, or Shaw's Agency, 18, Adam-st., Strand, London.

YAMAMOTO and MISS KOYOSHI TROUPE. Celebrated Japanese Equilibrists and Entertainers. Perm., 30, Rue d'Orsel, Paris. Jan. 13. Picturedrome, Nuneaton. Vac. March 17, 31, May 5, on. Share or certainty if required with own company.

YOUNG, TED. Enormous Success as Dame Crusoe. This week, Hippo., Warrington. Next, Theatre Royal, Aston.

ZENITH and WHYTE. "The Jelly Wobble."

APPLICATIONS for POSITIONS on the BACK PAGE of "The Era" should be addressed to the Publisher.

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CALLS FOR MONDAY, JANUARY 13, 1913.

THE LONDON HIPPODROME.

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

"Hullo, Rag-time!" Green & Wood, Solo, Doring's Pigeons, Irene Richards, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, FINSBURY PARK.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Fred Wildon, Frank L. Gregory Troupe, McKinnon's Meisters, Paulastos, Barclay Gammon, Chas. Austin, Carbrey Boys, Tom Costello, Bioscope, Marie Goodwin.

EMPIRE, NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Hans & Lorenzi, Fred Keeton, Potter & Hartwell, Metz & Metz, Rose Hays, Jock McKay, The Astis, Smythe & Hartman, Bioscope, Fred Dyer.

BROADWAY T., NEW CROSS.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Pantomime production "Aladdin."

ALEXANDRA THEATRE, STOKE NEWINGTON.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

J. H. Scotland, Sisters Storm, Van Rooke & Wynberg, Pictures.

EMPIRE, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Leslie Harris, Walter Munroe, Hayman & Franklin, Williams & Parker, Six Bros. Luck, The Paulhan Team, Tucker, Lennie Hill, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, SWANSEA.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Doris Duquesne, Cooper & Lait, Tom Parker, Great Weiland, Houdini, Caselli Sisters, Arthur Young, Bioscope.

EMPIRE, NEWPORT.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Ferry Corwey, Bert Weston, Marjorie Dawson, Jen Latona, Charburn's Stars, Ted Hopkins, Bioscope, Harry Simms, Keen & Waller.

PANOPTICON, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 3 p.m. for:—

Mint & Mart, Dave Abbott, Pictures.

OLYMPIA, CARDIFF.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Emily Schofield, Lillie Rogers, Pictures.

EMPIRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Wood, Wells, & Wilkins, Wilfred Burnand, Bob Pender's Dandies, Gilday & Fox, Bioscope, Rose Cambry, Whit Cunliffe, Fred Land, Bioscope, The Daunton-Shaw Troupe.

EMPIRE THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Mr. & Mrs. Manning, Les Marbas, Scottie Provan, Frank Benson, The Two Hollanders, Bros. Miller, Piccad Troupe, Bioscope, Amos Howard, Gilda Vincenzo.

COLISEUM, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

John Tiller's Pantomime "The Forty Thieves."

GRAND THEATRE, GLASGOW.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Pantomime Production, "Mother Hubbard" and "Goody Two Shoes."

Managers please note by mutual arrangement the Grand and Metropole Theatres, Glasgow, work in conjunction.

GRAND, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Katie Sandwina, Langley & Inger, Bioscope, The American Rag-time Octette, The Villions, Mabel Sinclair, Chas. Stevens, Hunt & Thomas, Harry Knox.

NEW PALACE, SUMMERHILL, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

J. D. Hunter & Co., Demona & Wills, Harley Boys, Pictures.

Artistes in the Midlands wishing to submit trials for their acts should apply to the manager of this theatre.

EMPIRE PALACE, BIRMINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Mann & Franks, Arras Duo, The Craggs, Weston & Lynche, Maude Tiffany, W. J. Churchill, Bioscope, Peter & Potts, The Haytors.

Notice to Artistes.

The management invite artistes engaged in Birmingham to take advantage of the handsome and high-class lounge which has recently opened adjoining the Empire Theatre, and under the same management. All facilities are provided for correspondence, &c.

EMPIRE PALACE, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Stein Esthor Trio, Four Vagabonds, Wullie Walker, Howard & Harris, Frank & Vesta, Gene Greene, The Rawsons, Bioscope, Van Der Koors.

OLYMPIA, LIVERPOOL.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Pantomime, "Dick Whittington."

EMPIRE PALACE, LEEDS.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Walter Bellonini, Kitty Wager, Fred Poplar, Ed. Lawrence, The Cowboy Jupiters, Mike S. Whallen, Sisters Finney, W ill Van Allen, O'Hanlon & Rivkin, Bioscope.

PALACE THEATRE, HULL.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Louis Alvarez, Bros. Curran, Harry Blake, "The River Girl," The Delevines, Aerial Smiths, Bioscope, Tom Stuart, Bi-Ber-Ti.

EMPIRE PALACE, SHEFFIELD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Bros. Durant, Vernon Troupe, Real McKays, Mlle. Golda, Herbert Darnley's Co. including Fred Kitchen, Those Three Rasca's, Torcat's Roosters, Bioscope, Alf Chester.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BRADFORD.

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Anette & Lillian, Henry Helme, Billy Marsden, Mark Sheridan, Russell & Held, Quigley Bros, W. T. Ellwanger, Archie Naish, Rich Taylor.

EMPIRE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

Resident-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

Gus Fowler, Sable Fern, Andrew McManus, New York Ginger Boys & Girls, Dort & Leonard, Terry & Lambert, Fred Edwards, Bioscope, Kitty Prince, Lona Wayne.

EMPIRE THEATRE, EDINBURGH.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Huley & Bent, Vittorio & Georgette, Trixie Marris, Chass Lewis, The Keppels, Neil Kenyon, "The Lodgers," Bioscope, Woodward's Seals, Leslie Bros.

EMPIRE, STRATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Carmen Turia, Russell Trio, Eugene Stratton, Vera Wootton, Friend & Downing, Bioscope, Lizzie Glenroy, Frank H. Fox, Jack Smiles, Bellclair Bros.

The following are booked in conjunction with the above:

EMPIRE, SUNDERLAND.

Managing-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

John Tiller's Pantomime "Cinderella."

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE, WEST HARTLEPOOL.

Managing-Director: Mr. Richard Thornton.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Harry Burns' Pantomime "Robinson Crusoe."

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE PALACE, S. SHIELDS.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

The Ten Loonies, Chas. Cardow, Camp & Critic, Stelling & Revell, Bioscope, The Araluzs, L'Incognita.

Artistes are requested to send all Bill Matter for this Hall Direct to Empire Theatre, Sunderland.

EMPIRE THEATRE, DUBLIN.

Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—

Chris Van Bern, Iva Voyce, Lyons & Cullum, Eric Mayne, Pictures, Ena Florence, Bracewell & Bond, Massona, Ken Kendish, Eva Daulton.

EMPIRE THEATRE, BELFAST.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Gallimore Trio, George Rae, Pictures, Madge Northcote, Rose Gower, George St. Helen, Cleo Peel.

HER MAJESTY'S, WALSALL.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Stock Company.

IMPERIAL HALL, WALSALL.

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GRAND PICTURE HOUSE, WALSALL.

Picture Entertainment.

GRAND THEATRE, NOTTINGHAM.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Pantomime production "Dick Whittington."

These Calls are communicated by the Management for the information of Artistes WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ARTISTES AND AGENTS.—When an artiste or act, having previously played on the Moss' Empire Tour, is re-engaged for further dates, the Contracts will be sent to the agent who negotiated the last engagement—unless notice has been received from the artiste that this is not desired. It is therefore important that should artistes change their agents, notification in writing be immediately sent to Moss' Empires, Ltd., stating through whom they desire their business transacted.

PLEASE NOTE.—NO DEPUTIES WILL BE ACCEPTED AT REHEARSALS. ANY ARTISTES ABSENTING THEMSELVES WILL BE LIABLE TO HAVE THEIR CONTRACTS CANCELLED.

SPECIAL PROVISION HAS BEEN MADE AT EACH THEATRE FOR THE EXHIBITION OF LOOSE PHOTOGRAPHS. ARTISTES ARE REQUESTED TO SUPPLY THESE TO THE MANAGER ON REACHING THE THEATRE, AND THEY WILL BE RETURNED IN GOOD CONDITION AT THE END OF THE WEEK

RE APPLICATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENTS.—All applications by either Artistes or their Agents must be made to the Head Office. Lowest terms must be stated, and distinction made between salaries required for larger and smaller towns. Vacant dates should be stated. If a list of existing bookings be sent, it will render selection easier. **SILENCE, A POLITE NEGATIVE.** To avoid confusion Artistes employing Agents should accredit one only at one time to do their business.

BOOKING DEPARTMENT.—This department is now under the supervision of Mr. Ernest Wighton.

EMPIRE THEATRE, SOUTH SHIELDS.—Artistes and Agents wishing to submit TRIALS for their Acts in the North should apply to the Manager, as Matinees are held every Wednesday for that purpose.

N.B.—MR. FRANK ALLEN can be seen by appointment on all matters arising out of the above, and for the discussion of entirely new Numbers.

INSTRUCTIONS TO ARTISTES.—Artistes must have at least Fourteen Band Parts for English Orchestrations, and Seventeen Band Parts for Foreign Orchestrations. Matter of Bill, Blocks, and Specimens of Pictorials FOR THE ABOVE THEATRES must be sent to Head Offices, at above address, THREE WEEKS before Opening, failing which Artistes will run the risk of having their engagements cancelled. IMPORTANT.—Artistes must forward Copies of Songs to the STAGE DEPARTMENT, ABOVE ADDRESS, TWO WEEKS previous to Opening, with Assignments for same, which will be returned. Artistes are requested to note carefully that the clause in their contracts relating to rehearsals will in future be strictly enforced. Artistes' Scenery, Properties, &c., MUST be fireproofed in accordance with the regulations of the Licensing Authorities. ARTISTES WILL CLEARLY UNDERSTAND THAT THEIR BUSINESS MUST BE FREE FROM ALL VULGARITY.

IMPORTANT.—All sketches produced at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain. A complete copy of the script of every sketch as licensed, with a copy of the Lord Chamberlain's licence, must be sent to the Head Office twenty-one days at least before the performance of the sketch at any of the above Theatres.

No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the foregoing theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the London Offices, and signed by either Mr. Frank Allen or the Chief Accountant, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases, where goods are required at once, suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within forty-eight hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the London Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss of or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

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Calls for Monday, Jan. 13, 1913.

LONDON PAVILION.

Rehearsal at 12.

Tate & Co., musical operetta "Maison Decollette," Zigeuner Quar[illegible]e, Chas. Whittle, Wish Wynne, Princess D'Aryd[illegible]a, Dare Austin & Co., Bros. Dean, Flo Esdaile, La Belle Linda, Harry Zetter, Brown and Nevarro, Herbert Rule, Larola, Bioscope.

TIVOLI.

Rehearsal at 12.

Marie Lloyd, Alfred Lester, Cinquevalli, Two Bobs, Sam Stern, Dora Lyric, Bert Coote & Co., Ernest Shand, Mlle. Lea Manti, Bros. Ford, W. S. Wyndham, Wyer and Sheldon, George Formby, Gus Elen, Bioscope.

OXFORD.

Rehearsal at 12.

"Marked Money," Joe Peterman's Co., Fregolia, G. H. Chirgwin, Mary Law, The Glazeroff Troupe, Ernest Shand, Mlle. Eldee, Cole and Rags, Tom Woottwell, George Formby, Dusty Rhodes, Gus Garrick, Arthur Leslie, Bioscope.

METROPOLITAN.

Rehearsal at 12.45.

McLellant and Carson, Ten Loonies, G. H. Chirgwin, Mart and Pep, Ernie Leno, Conway George, Shirley and Ransome, Bert Lytton, Daisy Sloan, Bioscope.

SOUTH LONDON.

Rehearsal at 12.

Wentworth Croke's "Cinderella," Jenny Castelle, Fred Douglas, Dancing Middies, Bioscope.

CHELSEA.

Rehearsal at 12.

Marie Lloyd, Nellie Wallace, Jock Whiteford, Fred Wilkinson, Bayley and Hope, Herbert Rule, Mart and Pep, Phil Kauffman, Shirley and Ransome, Ethel Stephenson, Bioscope.

EUSTON.

Rehearsal at 12.

E. Lotinga & Co., Nellie Wallace, George Pickett's Co., Barnard's Marionettes, Belle Davis and Piccs., A. Lennard, Ernie Leno, Mr. & Mrs. Geo. Leonard, Jessie Lee, Five Cliftons, Bioscope.

EAST HAM.

Rehearsal at 12.

George Dance's Co. "The Whip."

WALTHAMSTOW.

Rehearsal at 1.

Arthur Rose & Co., George D'Albert, The Five Petleys, Tony Black, Harry Bedford, Tom Moore, The Crisps, Elsie Kerry, Bioscope, Lallie Hall.

TOTTENHAM.

Rehearsal at 2.

George Formby, Three Van Dammes, Mary Law, George D'Albert, Harvey Boys, Halma, Tony Black, Madge Osmond, The Crisps, Tom Moore, Bioscope.

EMPRESS, BRIXTON.

Rehearsal at 12.

Alfred Lester, Harry Tate & Co., Seven Perezoffs, Five Jovers, Tom Woottwell, Billy McIvor, Louie Tracy, Four Clovelly Girls, Violet Conyss, Mr. & Mrs. Geo. Leonard, Bioscope.

WATFORD.

Rehearsal at 1.

Harry Day's Co., "Aladdin."

These Calls are communicated by the Managements for the information of Artistes "without prejudice."

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(Seven Artistes.)
First Vacant Date—
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(Seven Artistes.)
First Vacant Date—
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ON MONDAY NEXT,
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and

VARIETY ARTISTES' BENEVOLENT FUND.
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NOTICE.

The Secretary desires the addresses of the following members: Costello and Freeman, the Mowatts, Wellman, Lydia Neilson, Ryan and Hall, Gwennie Morgan, Wincklers, Mazuz, Corbin, Anna Dorothy, and King and Benson. Will any member knowing the addresses of the above kindly communicate with the Secretary?

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Address all communications to the Managing Director.

CALLS FOR JANUARY 13, 1913.

THE LONDON COLISEUM.

Rehearsal at 10 a.m. for:—

Arthur Bourchier and Violet Vanbrugh in "Pearls," Seymour Hicks and Ellaline Terriss in "Washed Up," Anna Eva Fay, The Four Holloways, Harry Grey, Bioscope, Gerald Griffin & Co. in "Other People's Money," The Harlequinaders, Olga, Elgar and Eli Hudson.

Please note the Continental Pitch has been adopted by the Coliseum Orchestra.

THE NEW MIDDLESEX.

Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—

"Secrets of the ——," Selection, Mlle. Marjutti, Bioscope, Little Ganty, Chanti.

THE HACKNEY EMPIRE.

Rehearsal at 1 p.m. for:—

Zona Vevey, Jennie Johns, Haydee's Miniature Vaudeville Theatre, Victor Kelly, Master Frank Wilson, Bioscope, Cornalla and Eddie, Hinton and Wooton, Fred Russell, Lou s J. Seymour.

Artistes should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at end of week.

SHEPHERD'S BUSH EMPIRE.

Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—

Gertie Gitana, Ike and Will Scott, Joseph Adelmann Family, "Detective Keen," Albert Rees, Frank H. Fox, Lecardo Brothers, Frank and Beryl Harmer, Bioscope, Harmony Four.

THE CHISWICK EMPIRE.

Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—

George Gray & Co. in "The People's King," John Weil, Marie Novello, Olga Teharna, F. Sylvester & Co., De Breans, Dion Wade, Bioscope, Holden's Mannikins.

WOOD GREEN EMPIRE.

Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—

"Wild Australia," Charles Bell & Co. in "The Photographer," Riff, Braff and Broff, Doroswami, Elizabeth Clair, Bioscope, "The Window of the Haunted House," Millie Doris, Morny Cash.

CHATHAM EMPIRE.

Rehearsal at 2 p.m. for:—

"Aladdin," Raffin's Monkeys, Bioscope.

Artistes should send photos for display in front of the house to Manager, to be returned at end of week.

MANCHESTER HIPPODROME.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

"The Smuggler," Marcus and Gartelle, Veronica Brady, Barry Lindon, Harold Montague, Borsini Troupe, Kate and Tom Major, Bioscope, The Zenga Troupe.

THE ARDWICK EMPIRE.

Rehearsal at 12.30 p.m. for:—

George Lashwood, Wells and Mayban, Alexandra Dagmar, Adam Tomlinson, Baron's Menagerie, Sisi and Fifi, St. Hellier and Dorothy, Bioscope, Edith Fink, La Pia.

THE LEICESTER PALACE.

Rehearsal at 12 noon for:—

Victoria Monks, Tan Kwai Troupe, Fitz-Allen, Millie Payne, Pyck, Tholl and Taylor, Edie King, Bioscope, Park's Eton Boys, Campbell and Barber.

LEICESTER FLORAL HALL.

Pictures.

BRISTOL HIPPODROME.

Rehearsal at 11 a.m. for:—

Mr. C. Aubrey Smith and Miss Lilian Braithwaite in "Instinct," Sidney James' Strolling Players, Hurl and Ford, Leipzig, Five Symphony Girls, Cooke and Three Rotherts, Bioscope, Signorina Sara Melita, Footgers.

NOTE.—All Sketches played at the above theatres must be licensed by the Lord Chamberlain, and a copy of the licence, together with script as licensed, must be sent to the Stoll Offices at least 21 days before date of performance.

Arrangements for additional Theatres include—

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ADVERTISING MATTER.—Bills, Blocks, Photographs, and specimens of Pictorials really representing the Act, should be forwarded three weeks before opening. If return of photographs required, please say so.

STAGE DEPARTMENT.—Songs proposed to be sung should be submitted, and special stage requirements stated, in letters marked "Stage Department," by Artistes three weeks before opening.

COARSENESS, VULGARITY, &c., is not allowed. The Licensing Authorities forbid this and the majority of the public resent it. This intimation is only rendered necessary by a very few Artistes.

ARTISTES' SCENERY AND PROPERTIES must be fireproofed or they cannot be brought into the Theatre. This is by order of the Licensing Authorities.

BUSINESS NOTICE OF GENERAL APPLICATION.—No order or contract for goods or services must be accepted for any of the above Theatres except upon receipt of an Official Form, issued from the Offices, London, and signed by either Mr. Oswald Stoll or the Secretary, otherwise the Company concerned will not be responsible for same, and will refuse payment. In special cases where goods are required at once suppliers must look to the individual placing the order, who will be personally liable, unless an official confirmatory order, signed as above, is received within 48 hours. Invoices must be sent to the Theatre, but monthly statements should be sent to the above Head Offices. The individual Company on whose behalf orders are signed is solely responsible for payment. The Management will not hold themselves responsible in the event of loss or damage to any MSS., Songs, &c., submitted for consideration.

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Artistes wishing to negotiate engagements, Agents and Managers of Touring Companies can be seen between the Hours of 10 and 1 (Mondays and Saturdays excepted).

CALLS FOR MONDAY, JAN. 13, 1913.

ASHTON—Empire Hippodrome.—Billy Williams, Rowland, Cavalli, Beale and Broadway, Behrwalls, Guest and Newlyn, Max Erard's "Silver Wedding" Co. **2.**

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE—Empress Roller Rink. — Skating, Two Sessions Daily.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE — Pavilion Theatre.—l'Ada, Pictures. **11.** Matinées, Monday, Tuesday, and Saturday, **2.30.**

BURY — Hippodrome.—Tellski, Ltd., present "Quisby's Agency," Horace White, Pictures, Bart and Bart, Harl, Guila Denza, Florence and Rose Showell, and Company as booked. **2.**

ECCLES—Crown Theatre.—Athelda, Custances, Pictures. **2.**

LIVERPOOL—Pavilion Theatre.—John Tiller's Pantomime, "Sinbad the Sailor." **2.** Matinée, Saturday, **2.30.**

MANCHESTER — Hippodrome.—Gar Kiddie's Fantomime, "Bo-Peep." **2.** Matinée, Saturday, **2.30.**

MANCHESTER-Junction Theatre. Edie Veno, Lew Lake & Co., Chas. Denman, Morris, Brooks and Morris, Lola Charm, Good[illegible]s, Walter W[illegible] Sharks, Jacks[illegible]

MANCHESTER—King's Theatre.—Travis Green and Graham Winsford's Co. in "The Pride of the Prairie." **2.**

MANCHESTER—Metropole Theatre.—Andie Caine's Pantomime, "Dick Whittington." **11.** Matinées, Monday and Saturday, **2.30.**

MANCHESTER.—Osborne Theatre.—Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Draycott's Co. in "The Great White Chief." **2.**

MANCHESTER — Queen's Park Hippodrome.—H. O. Will's Pantomime, "The Forty Thieves." **11.** Matinees, Monday and Saturday, **2.30.**

MORECAMBE—Winter Gardens.—Pictures, Dancing, &c.

PRESTON — Hippodrome. — Betty Barclay and Baritone, Yorke and Adams, Peggy Pryde, Ray's Eight Skating Football Girls, Four Arconis, Harry Champion, and Company as booked. **11.** Matinée, Monday, **2.30.**

PRESTON—New King's Palace.—Will open shortly.

SALFORD — Hippodrome.

MISS MARIE LLOYD.

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New Songs:
"One thing leads to another,"
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Continued success on tour. Address all letters,
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Jan. 13, EMPRESS, BRIXTON.

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Title-rôle, "Jack Horner,"
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Jan. 13, PALACE, LEICESTER.

Coms., Mr. H. Thurston.

MISS BERTIE ADAMS.

As JUNE POMEROY,
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Next week, NEWCASTLE.

As June, Bertie Adams splendidly portrays a part which makes greatly for the success of the production. Coms., Blackmore's Agency.

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The Sparkling Principal Girl
in "Twinkle Little Star,"
is the talk of Birmingham.

Coms., George Barclay, Brixton.

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Great Success as ELVIRA, "Cinderella,"
GAIETY THEATRE, DUBLIN.

One of the ladies who play these sisterly parts was "the life of the production," for rollicking humour she can give many male experts in low comedy a long start and a good beating. In her song, "Oh, Mary, I'm surprised at you," she invested a liberal fund of humour and vivacity.—"Irish Independent," Dec. 27.

Miss Dolly Harmer as Elvira acted well and sang well, her rendering of the comic song, "Oh, Mary," being a "marked success."—"Freeman's Journal," Dec. 27.

Dolly Harmer, too, has a big fund of humour to draw on, and scores enormously in "Oh, Mary!"—"Irish Sporting Illustrated," Dec. 28.

Miss Dolly Harmer and Miss Heron-Brown are respectively the Ugly Sisters, and in the hands of these ladies the parts are made "delightfully" amusing, without the wearying absurdity which convention appears to demand when they are rendered by artistes of the opposite sex.—"Stage," Jan. 2.

The parts of the Ugly Sisters are played this year by two ladies, and the performance of Miss Dolly Harmer and Miss Edith Heron-Brown go a long way towards the success of the pantomime. The former, as Elvira, is one of the "best" comediennes seen in Dublin for a considerable time, and her rendering of the comic effusion "Oh, Mary!" is certainly one of the "hits" of the production.—"The Era," Jan. 4.

A hit, a most palpable hit.

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A "star" that never fails to shine.

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Manager, Ernest Lotinga.

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Enormous success as Prince in "Cinderella." Every number encored, each performance. Doesn't wish to say she is the best Principal Boy in England, but her governor, Murray King, wrote her:

"It must be very gratifying to the company to know we have the best Principal Boy of the year,"

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"Most excellent. I have never seen you better."

'Nuff sed.

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Till further notice.

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Fifth season with J. B. Howard's "Robinson Crusoe" Panto. The cleverest of the band is Miss Elsie Allen, the Robinson Crusoe, who danced with the lightest of feet, and sang vivaciously, and looked charming in a series of becoming costumes.—"Cheltenham Echo." The title-rôle is taken by Miss Elsie Allen with a freshness and charm. She is a good singer and splendid dancer, all her songs and dances being encored.—"Citizen." Is a handsome and dashing Crusoe, and her rendering of "Alexander's rag-time" is done with rare spirit.—"Onlooker." Is practically perfect as Robinson Crusoe. She dances with the lightest of feet and sings vivaciously.—"The Era."

But "Alexander's Rag-Time Band" still remains the really great success of this pantomime, and has already been appropriated by the local errand boy for his own. A more attractive principal boy than Miss Elsie Allen has never donned tights. She sings and dances with unceasing vivacity. Her Robinson Crusoe was good on the trying occasion of the first performance, but it has enormously improved with the confidence added by a successful ten days' run. Miss Elsie Allen is easily the best "boy" seen locally for many a long year.—"The Cheltenham Echo."

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One of the most popular and the youngest of Principal Boys. Enormous success as Jack in "Jack and the Beanstalk,"

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MAUDIE FRANCIS
as
Goody Two Shoes.

Next week, BALHAM.

MINNIE D'AUBYN.

Principal Boy, ABDALLAH.

Undoubtedly a pronounced success, and complimented by everyone. Harry Burns' "Forty Thieves." Next, HIP., HAMILTON.

MADGE GOODALL
provides an excellent turn, and deserved the applause accorded her.—"Warrington Guardian," Oct. 16. Next, Pringle's Elm-row, Edinburgh. Jan. 20, Pringle's, Glasgow. Vacant Jan. 27, Feb. 3, 10.
Novelty Character Girl and Dainty Dancer.

Brilliant Success. Brilliant Success.

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in her Magnificent Electrical Aerial Dance Act, "The Silver Butterfly." A blaze of revolving light. KING'S THEATRE, EDINBURGH. Vac. Feb. 3, 10, 17, 24. Special Engagement in Panto. or Halls.

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Own Duologue, "IN A CORNER." Supported by Mr. Charles Lind Vivian. Palace, Watford; South London; Islington Empire; Chelsea Palace; Empress, Brixton, recently. Jan. 20, GRANVILLE, WALHAM GREEN. Vacant next week and other immediate dates. 3, Gt. Ormond-st., W.C.

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Grand Success
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Re-engaged
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at a substantial rise of salary.
Booked at every influential Theatre
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Apply Tom Claxton, senr.,
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Open for Principal Boy and Girl,
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That I, the Original
CHARLES FERRIS,
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Wanted, Good Songs.

MISS LILLIE LANGTRY.

A more completely suitable Aladdin than Miss Langtry could not be desired, her dash and go give that spirit of vivacity and brightness essential to pantomime. She sings delightfully and acts with remarkable vivacity and charm. She is the life and soul of the pantomime, and is to a large extent responsible for its great success. Long before the curtain was rung down Aladdin was the prime favourite, and cordially applauded time and again.—Vide Press. Every song encored. "Wee Scotch laddie" repeated four and five times every performance. Brilliant success King's Theatre, Greenock (two weeks). Monday next, Theatre Royal, Huddersfield. All coms., G. Barclay.

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Big Success

As BILLIE in "The Magic Bell,"

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Continued success of "Old knee breeches,"
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Great Success as MOTHER HUBBARD.

MR. HARRY CONLIN
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Reference must be made to the success of Mr. Harry Conlin, who, in his cleverly-arranged series of costumes, has known all the time how to be funny without being vulgar.—"Glasgow News."

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Great Success, Hanley, Birkenhead, Tunbridge, Chatham, and Gibbons' Halls.

MR. F. V. ST. CLAIR,
in the Great Song, "Mister Lloyd."

PALACE THEATRE, PLYMOUTH.

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(MAGGIE and JACK),
Entertainers.

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"PATCHING IT UP."
"PATCHING IT UP."
By Wal Pink.
A Screaming Success.

JOE ELVIN.

HIPPODROME, POPLAR.
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